

REITH LECTURES

How Marina Warner will destroy myths

Truth behind the she-monster, page 14



TAYLFORTH CASE

What do we tell the children?

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Chilling legacy of white slavery

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30P

THE TIMES

No. 64,863 THURSDAY JANUARY 27 1994

Prince of Wales 'cool as a cucumber' as starting pistol assailant is overpowered

Royal safety review after 'gun' attack

By Alan Hamilton in Sydney and Stewart Tendler

■ The royal family may have to accept more conspicuous protection on foreign trips after a student's mock gun attack on the Prince of Wales in Australia

AN URGENT review of royal security was ordered last night after a student concerned about the plight of Cambodian boat people fired two blank shots from a starting pistol at the Prince of Wales during an open-air concert in Sydney.

The prince, taking part in an Australia Day celebration, was bundled aside by his bodyguard as the gunman was overpowered and arrested. The incident was over in seconds and within minutes the unharmed prince was delivering a speech as though nothing had happened.

David Kang, 23, will appear in court in Sydney today accused of threatening and attacking a person under protection, assault, affray and possessing and using a firearm. If convicted, he could go to jail for 20 years. Last month Mr Kang wrote to the prince about Cambodian refugees detained in Australia, but was told that there was nothing the prince could do.

New South Wales police immediately announced a review of security for the remainder of the prince's visit and in London, the Metropolitan Police commissioner Paul Condon said that Scotland Yard commanders would be examining protection for all members of the Royal Family. That could lead to fresh discussions with Buckingham Palace and tighter arrangements for foreign tours.

Last night royal officials insisted, however, that security procedures had been correctly observed, and Mr Condon expressed "quiet satisfaction" at the way the prince's bodyguard, Supt Colin Trimming, had reacted, saying: "I take great comfort from the fact that the first person at his side was his close protection officer."

Tony Lauer, the New South Wales police commissioner, said that the incident had been merely a stunt and there had been no risk to the prince at any stage. The attacker had been armed with a starting pistol loaded with two blanks, which was incapable of firing any projectile.

There was nevertheless deep embarrassment that such an incident should have happened and Terry Griffiths, the state police minister, said that in future the police would disregard security advice from Buckingham Palace if they felt it necessary. Mr Griffiths dismissed suggestions that his men were slow to react — they were on the stage in seconds — and said they were following guidelines laid down by the palace. Prince Charles has insisted that when he is facing a large audience, the people's view of him should not be obscured by security men and that his personal protection should be discreet.

An estimated 20,000 people had spent the holiday in Tumbalong Park at Darling Harbour, and there was no question of a security check on such vast numbers entering a public park for the day-long concert. In conducting its security review, Scotland Yard will ask the Australian police whether more should have been done to screen the crowd and whether there should have been any police or security screen between the prince and the people.

The incident happened just after 7 pm as the prince rose from his front-row seat on an outdoor stage to deliver a speech and present prizes. He was just about to start speaking when a light, sharp shot rang out. Hearing it, the prince glanced nervously about him. A young Asian man then ran towards the stage, firing another shot as he jumped on to it before tripping over a microphone wire and crashing into a lectern.

None of the security men was close enough to intercept him, but as the second shot was fired, Supt Trimming was out of his seat. He charged the prince bodily, knocking him out of the way, briefly turned to check that the assailant was down and hurried the prince away to the edge of the stage.

As the bodyguard was bulldozing Prince Charles out of the way, local dignitaries, including Rear Admiral Peter Sinclair, the governor of New South Wales, and John Fahey, the state premier, pounced on the attacker and held him firmly to the ground barely six feet from where the prince had been standing. Ian Kiernan, the round-the-world yachtsman who had just been named Australian of the Year, said: "I got him in a headlock. He is going to have a very sore neck in the morning. The prince was as cool as a cucumber."

Richard Aylard, the prince's private secretary, said: "I saw this character running very, very fast towards the stage, at the speed of a 100 metres sprinter. I saw him fire what I took to be a starting pistol. As he tried to jump the stage he fell flat on his face. Everyone who heard the shots believed them to be from a starting pistol; in a strange way, it was not threatening."

Witnesses in the crowd later described how the student had been sitting with them 12 yards from the stage, before leaping up and firing the gun in the air. One said he had been "a bit of a pain", adding: "He kept getting up and sitting down again as if he were nervous."

Royal security is closely examined after every incident, and it has twice been substantially overhauled — after the attempt to kidnap Princess Anne in 1974 and after an intruder reached the Queen's bedroom in 1982.

The latest review will include comments from senior Australian officers and members of Britain's royalty protection branch who provide close protection and vet arrangements made by local forces. The Yard, which will send a report to the Home Secretary, is likely to question how well the liaison worked and how carefully plans were examined.

The review may also ask whether protection officers should be closer to their charges at functions — Supt Trimming was seated two rows behind the prince — and a change in the system may have to be negotiated with the palace. Protection officers are always very close at hand when members of the Royal Family are on walkabouts.

Mr Kang was apparently trying to draw attention to the hundreds of boat people from southeast Asia who have been held for years in Australian detention camps, including one at Villawood on the outskirts of Sydney. Immigration authorities have approved only a few applications for refugee status and the rest, described by Canberra as economic refugees, are threatened with forced repatriation.



SKY TV

Prince Charles is protected by his bodyguard, Supt Colin Trimming, as Ian Kiernan, John Fahey and a policeman grapple with the gunman





Kang: wrote to prince about the boat people

Living with danger, page 3
Diary, page 16
Leading article, page 17

Shop roof fall kills 10

ABOUT ten people were killed and 90 injured yesterday when the roof of a hypermarket in Nice on the French Riviera collapsed. More than 70 of the injured were taken to hospital, six of them in a serious condition.

The roof crashed down on customers and staff at the Casino hypermarket which is on the seafront and near the airport. Early reports said that up to 15 people were trapped under the rubble.

Roof collapse, page 12

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Bulger killers' jail terms spark dispute

By Richard Ford, Home Correspondent

THE two killers of James Bulger, the two-year old abducted and murdered on Merseyside, should serve a minimum of eight years, the trial judge has recommended to the Home Secretary.

But the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Taylor of Gosforth, disagrees with the recommendation and wants the two boys, both aged 11, to spend at least ten years in custody.

Mr Justice Morland's recommendation has been made several weeks after he ordered that Robert Thompson and Jon Venables be detained at Her Majesty's pleasure. The recommendation sparked a furious reaction from the Bulger family and Tory MPs who said that the boys, held in local authority secure accommodation, should serve much longer. James's grandmother said people would still feel so strongly in eight years that the boys would be in danger if they were released.

A statement issued on behalf of Ralph and Denise Bulger, James's parents, said that the eight-year recommendation was difficult to believe. Sean Sexton, their solicitor, added: "I find it very difficult to believe — having heard the evidence of what they did to that poor child, the comments of Mr Justice Morland that they would be detained for 'a very long time', and the fact that one of them — Thompson — has still not accepted any responsibility."

Thompson, of Walton, Liverpool, and Venables, of Norris Green, were aged ten when they abducted James, led him to a railway line and bludgeoned him to death.

Last night, the Lord Chief Justice attempted to defuse the controversy. "If there is a continuing risk to the public, the prisoner may be detained after the expiry of the recommended minimum period," Lord Taylor said.

Battle lines drawn in 'Juliet' row

By Dominic Kennedy

THE school governors, who refused to suspend the head teacher in the *Romeo and Juliet* row, were threatened last night with legal action.

Hackney council said it would go to court unless the governing body of Kingsmead primary school in Clapton, east London, temporarily relieved the head, Jane Brown, of her duties pending an enquiry.

The education authority has found a case to answer of "gross misconduct" by the head, who refused subsidised tickets for the Royal Opera House because Prokofiev's ballet was based on Shakespeare's "blatantly heterosexual love story".

A siege mentality was yesterday gripping the school in a poor estate.

Council action, page 6

Labour ditches its expensive promises

By Jill Sherman Political Correspondent

LABOUR has ditched all its spending pledges on health following an internal row over a policy document to be published next month. All cash promises and references to correcting underfunding in the health service have been removed from the new report, approved by the party's national executive yesterday.

The move came only hours after Gordon Brown, the shadow Chancellor had insisted that Labour had no spending commitments.

A draft health paper, drawn up by David Blunkett, shadow Health Secretary, was said to include several expensive commitments and was rejected by Labour's national policy committee chaired by John Smith, the party leader, last month.

The report was heavily criticised by some members of the committee who argued it contained a number of "political deathwishes". The revised paper, which is said to have followed an angry row between Mr Blunkett and the shadow Treasury team, falls in line with Labour's eagerness to dispel its high taxation, high spending image.

Labour's sensitivity over spending was underlined last night when Mr Smith warned his shadow Cabinet colleagues to be vigilant against making loose pledges and handing ammunition to the Tories.

His comments, and those of Mr Brown, followed a list of alleged Labour pledges published by the Conservatives, which included commitments to nursery education for all children aged 4, a national minimum wage and equalising the state pension age at 60. Mr Smith last night dismissed the list as "obvious rubbish".

Speaking on Radio 4's *Today* programme, Mr Brown said: "There is no commitment

Continued on page 2, col 5

Peter Riddell, page 8

ADVERTISEMENT

How *Times* readers can save lives in Bosnia now

REPORT FROM TUZLA

Whoever is guilty of creating the hell that is Bosnia today, Adisa Ekrem and thousands of children like her are the innocent victims.

Six-year-old Adisa lives in an overcrowded makeshift refugee shelter near Tuzla. Orphaned after a devastating mortar blast, Adisa herself was discovered fighting for her life by UK aid agency Feed the Children. The shelter was desperately short of food, particularly the food needed by young children.

Feed the Children delivers food, medical and hygiene supplies directly to children in immediate need. They're bringing hope to hell. Their work is fast, efficient, well targeted, and often carried out in very dangerous conditions. They have saved Adisa's life – and the lives of countless more children like her.

But every week, yet more children are made homeless. Feed the Children has pledged that if military action threatens aid deliveries to any area, they will continue to distribute supplies wherever they can in former Yugoslavia.

To do this, they need more support from people in Britain. *Times* readers can make a real difference. With £25, Feed the Children can feed 45 hungry infants for one day. Please give whatever you can to save the lives of these innocent children.



One of the countless children in Bosnia who need your help to survive

I won't watch children die. Here is my life-saving donation.

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FEED THE CHILDREN

TAKING THE AID DIRECT

Hurd faces enquiry over 'aid for contracts' deal

By Arthur Leathley, Angela Mackay and Peter Pringle

DOUGLAS Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, is to face detailed questioning by MPs over Britain's decision to hand over £234 million of aid to Malaysia in return for trade contracts.

Mr Hurd will also be pressed to release confidential documents which critics of the government's overseas aid policy claim will show improper use of development funds.

One of the key figures in the setting up of the £234 million Pergau dam deal was identified last night as a Malaysian businessman with close links to government and industry. Tan Sri Datuk A.P. Arumugam, known to his friends as "Aru", helped put together the deal involving the Pergau dam project, the biggest overseas aid project ever undertaken by the British Government's Overseas Development Administration.

Mr Arumugam, who is currently in Europe using his fashionable Kensington home as a base, met a number of the senior industrialists involved in the deal before it was signed in 1988.

Mr Hurd and John Major have come under heavy criticism for overruling the advice of senior civil servants and providing the £234 million towards a project which one adviser condemned as "a very bad buy". But a senior executive intimately involved in the project said there was no explicit linkage between aid and the granting of defence contracts.

Mr Major told MPs last week that the aid had resulted in billions of pounds of trade for British companies. Mr Hurd and Baroness Chalker of Wallasey, the Overseas Development Minister, are to be called before the Commons Foreign Affairs Select Committee which yesterday announced an enquiry into the decision and its implications on aid and trade.

Committee members will demand access to papers sent to ministers by Sir Tim Lankester, permanent secretary to the Overseas Development Administration, which he has been

Continued on page 2, col 6

Menuhin brings humorous note to off-key gathering

MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

"I am a maiden of 77 years," Yehudi Menuhin said in his maiden speech to the Lords, "an itinerant musician who has fiddled his way through life." Their lordships looked up, amused. Some of them, too, had fiddled their way through life: but with an artistry less pleasing than that of Lord Menuhin.

Peers, after passionate discussion of car boot sales, were debating the arts. Brian Rix, now in one of the longer-running farces in the West End, was to speak later. The novelist Jeffery Archer, who has managed the equation between funding and the arts in the reverse direction from that envisaged by other peers, watched, amused. A Tory baron whom we shall not name slept throughout. Another had manoeuvred his wheelchair up against the brass bar at the foot of the Throne, there to recline his head along an outstretched arm.

"I am saddened," Lord Menuhin said, "that a wider audience does not pay the House of Lords the respect it deserves."

Lord Donoughue spoke first, for the Opposition. As the burden of his speech was that more money was needed for the Arts Council, it seemed odd that the most memorable passage was a cruelly convincing attack on the cost-effectiveness of that body. The constructive part of Lord Donoughue's speech was less convincing. *Cats* and *Miss Saigon* might not be here without state funding, he implied. Milton Keynes now faces huge cuts in arts funds. In school, "dance should not be subsumed within physical education". Buoyed by the vision of children in Milton Keynes dancing by day and speeding to London by night to watch *Cats*, Lord Donoughue sat down.

Lord Crickhowell told us how many art galleries he had opened in Wales. A lord in a pigtail traipsed out as Crickhowell went on to commend performances by the Welsh National Opera. The important thing was "an ability to stage new productions which excite the interest of the audience".

I looked out over the Chamber, applying to this sumptuous theatre the criteria proposed by Lord Crickhowell. Plot? Confused. Music? Only a trumpet fanfare once a year for the Queen's Speech. Scenery, lighting and costumes? Magnificent. Special effects? Only Baroness Thatcher.

And there is a problem with characterisation. Many of the players seem vaguely familiar, but not in this show. They have starred in something else, a long time ago, but one cannot quite remember what. Most would be best cast in a camp Gothic musical — *The Rocky Horror Show*, perhaps — but they are never really given the script for it.

As Lord Crickhowell sat down, an exceptionally shapely young woman note-taker walked on to the floor and seated herself at the desk. Dressed in a nicely fitting woollen dress, she passed straight before the eyes of Lords Callaghan, 81, and Cledwyn, 77, on one side, Lord Hailsham, 86, on the other, and scores more elderly gents behind them. It was fascinating to observe where interest stirred. In some quarters there were distinct signs of life. In others, none.

It almost distracted me from Lord Menuhin's speech. He spoke well. His theme seemed to be the old Keatsian lie that beauty is allied with truth, and that order, sweetness and harmony in art may help mankind toward those qualities in the rest of life. I thought of Hitler's passionate love of music, and Graham Greene's remark that the sign of a really cruel man is that he cries easily in the cinema.

Major faces taxing challenge to restore party's reputation

BY PHILIP WEBSTER AND NICHOLAS WOOD

■ **Ministers predict that when the economy is on an even keel again the Tories will continue their assault on taxation**

JOHN Major will redouble his efforts to restore his authority tomorrow as senior ministers rally behind his attempt to save the Tory reputation as the party of low taxation.

The Prime Minister is planning an important speech during a regional tour which will set out the Government's priorities for the coming year as he continues his fightback against Labour's assault on his tax record.

He will do so against the background of continuing recriminations among ministers over what many see as the laggardly response to a foreseeable tax onslaught.

Friends of Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, were yesterday blaming his right-wing enemies for criticism of his recent performance: they were said to be trying to thwart his long-term leadership ambitions.

The Tory high command took their lead from Mr Major, with Sir Norman Fowler, the party chairman, suggesting that Labour had played into the Government's hands by choosing to focus on tax.

He said: "By concentrating on tax they have made the Tory case, that tax and spending are the same issue, that taxes which go too high can hurt incentives and the economic recovery and that spending must therefore be controlled."

Michael Portillo, the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, voiced disappointment about the tax rises but said they would bring spending and public income into balance. "That will create the fundamentals for our economic recovery and that means that we have the prospect in the medium term of being able to have lower rates of taxes again," he said. The Government was aiming to "move to a low taxation economy", but was currently having to borrow £1 billion a week. Mr Portillo told *The World At One* on Radio 4.

He said: "When we have made sure that we're not setting up a spiralling burden of a government overdraft for the years to come, then we can set about making sure that we get our taxes down to the lowest possible level."

Norman Lamont, whose March Budget introduced some of the tax increases due in April, said that higher taxes could apply for some time as the Government tried to reduce the deficit. He added: "The ambition of the Government remains to continue getting down the rate of taxation and the overall burden on families and the economy."

As ministers received a confidential briefing note yesterday setting out the Government's case on tax rises, they conceded that Labour had scored a "direct hit" by highlighting the effects of the Budgets.

However, they maintained that the damage was short-term and that by the next election they would be able to turn the debate to their advantage. They predicted that by then the Government would have reversed at least some of its tax increases and would be better placed to expose the contradictions of Opposition attacks on tax increases and demands for higher spending.

Letters, page 17

PETER LOMAS



Victoria Rimmer, who it is feared has contracted Creutzfeld-Jakob disease

MPs call for brain disease enquiry

BY A STAFF REPORTER

TWO MPs added their support last night to calls for a public enquiry into the case of a 16-year-old girl who may be the first person in Britain to have contracted Creutzfeld-Jakob disease (CJD) — the human equivalent of what is popularly known as "mad cow disease" — by eating or handling meat.

Victoria Rimmer, who worked at a kennels, is dying in hospital with what Professor Richard Lacey, a microbiologist at Leeds University, suspects is food-induced CJD. He outlined his fears in a Channel 4 *Dispatches* programme last night.

Barry Jones, the Labour MP whose Alyn and Deeside constituency covers Victoria's family home, has demanded a Government statement and a public enquiry. Yesterday Angela Eagle, Labour member for Wallasey, and Alistair Darling, Labour MP for Edinburgh Central, said they supported the calls. Both have been involved in campaigns to win compensation for people who acquired CJD after being treated with hormones from human glands. A spokesman for Ms Eagle said that the MP believed a public enquiry was needed to get at the facts.

Last night the Health Department said researchers at its CJD surveillance unit in Edinburgh had been called in to investigate Victoria's case. Diagnosing the disease is extremely difficult until the patient has died, when a test using brain tissue can be carried out.

The spokesman said that the surveillance team was likely to be looking at places where Victoria worked and the food she had handled, but that there were no preliminary results.

Britain wins £1.6bn EC aid for regions

Britain won £1.6 billion from the European Community yesterday for regions suffering industrial decline. The 30 per cent slice of EC aid, by far the largest, indicates Britain is continuing to face severe problems. The Midlands and the North will gain most. Between 1994 and 1996, the West Midlands will receive about £290 million, the North East £245 million and Yorkshire and Humberside £244 million. Cheshire, Manchester and Lancashire will receive £250 million, eastern Scotland and Strathclyde £313 million, and South Wales £145 million. Smaller shares will go to the East Midlands, Thanet, Greater London and Plymouth.

Trade and Industry officials, while welcoming the funds, complained that it was still not enough and accused the Commission of not sticking to the rules which determine the share-out. "It's a little disappointing," one official said. "We should have got more."

Fall in repossessions

There were 58,540 homes repossessed last year, 10,000 fewer than in 1992, according to figures released yesterday by the Council of Mortgage Lenders. They also show that 151,810 borrowers were more than 12 months in arrears with mortgage payments compared with 147,040 in 1992. Tim Dwelly, editor of *Roof*, a magazine published by the homeless organisation Shelter, said the figures underestimated the problem's size. "With 2.43 people living in each household, according to census figures, that means 142,252 people were made homeless." Leaders cautious, page 24

Scott told of disarray

Department of Trade and Industry officials campaigned in Whitehall for customs investigations into military sales to Iraq to be "toned down", the Scott enquiry was told yesterday. Michael Petter, who headed the department's Middle East branch, said that he had feared high-profile enquiries by customs investigators into firms such as Matrix Churchill were damaging British exports. He told the enquiry that the department's trades promotion policy had been left in disarray after the seizure in 1990 by customs of steel tubes destined for the Iraqi supergun.

Berlin to host match

Berlin's Olympic stadium, scene of the 1936 Nazi Games, will be the venue for a controversial soccer match between England and Germany scheduled for April 20, the birthday of Adolf Hitler, after the city of Hamburg decided to pull out. A Berlin Senate spokesman shrugged off criticism that the choice of location would trigger neo-Nazi violence.

Travel delays to Spain

Travellers to Spain face delays from a 24-hour strike today by the country's transport workers. Spanish trade unions have called for the action until midnight to protest at its government's economic policies. Pilots, baggage handlers, train, bus and coach drivers are taking action. Flights from Britain could be delayed for over 30 hours. Travel, pages 20-21

Nadir friend must pay

The businessman who pledged £650,000 to guarantee that Asil Nadir, the fugitive tycoon, appeared for his trial was yesterday given more time to pay. Two High Court judges granted a stay of execution of an order requiring Ramadan Guney to pay by Monday, or face two years in prison. He said he would appeal.

Gays drop grant claim

Twelve lesbians withdrew an application yesterday for a £1,500 grant from Bristol council for sign language classes. The women, who are not deaf, wanted special lessons by a homosexual lecturer to teach them in "a sympathetic environment". They withdrew their application after Tory councillors said it was ridiculous.

Weekends are colder

Science has at last proved what we all knew to be true: it is colder at weekends than it is during the week. Dr Adrian Gordon, of the Flinders Institute for Atmospheric and Marine Sciences in Adelaide, says he suspects that because there is less heat-producing human activity at weekends, the average temperature falls.

Labour cuts its promises

Continued from page 1

to spend money on anything," he said. "We will spend only what we can afford to spend. We will spend only when growth allows us to do so and we will spend as resources allow."

Mr Brown's comments were attacked by Tories and some Labour MPs. Michael Portillo, the Chief Treasury Secretary, said that Mr Brown's admissions were an own goal. "Now we know commitments to spend more on health, or introduce a minimum wage are not worth the paper they are written on. Mr Brown realises that if you promise to spend more you will have to tax more. He has raised the tax issue and stepped on a garden rake."

Last night some Labour MPs privately expressed concern at Mr Brown's comments and one said: "It is a great mistake to launch us as the party of low taxation and low spending."

Peter Riddell, page 8

Hurd faces enquiry on aid for dam

Continued from page 1

prevented from releasing. Sir Tim wrote the "memoranda of dissent" to underline his opposition to a scheme which he told MPs last week was "unequivocally unsound".

David Howell, the Conservative chairman of the committee, announced yesterday that he will not take part in the enquiry. He is a non-executive director of Trafalgar House, whose subsidiary, Cementation, is involved in the project.

Executives at several British companies who have won contracts with Malaysia since 1988 — including Laing, Taylor Woodrow and Trafalgar House — confirmed that Mr Arumugam is a well respected figure central to the re-establishment of industry ties between the two countries.

Mr Arumugam's spokesman in London, Sir Tim Bell, said his client had played a role as negotiator between British business and the Malaysian government but would not confirm he was specifically involved in the dam deal.





'Chilli's like sex. When it's good, it's great. And even when it's bad, it's not so bad'

WHAT HOT COOKS SERVE FOR THE SUPERBOWL

WEEKEND

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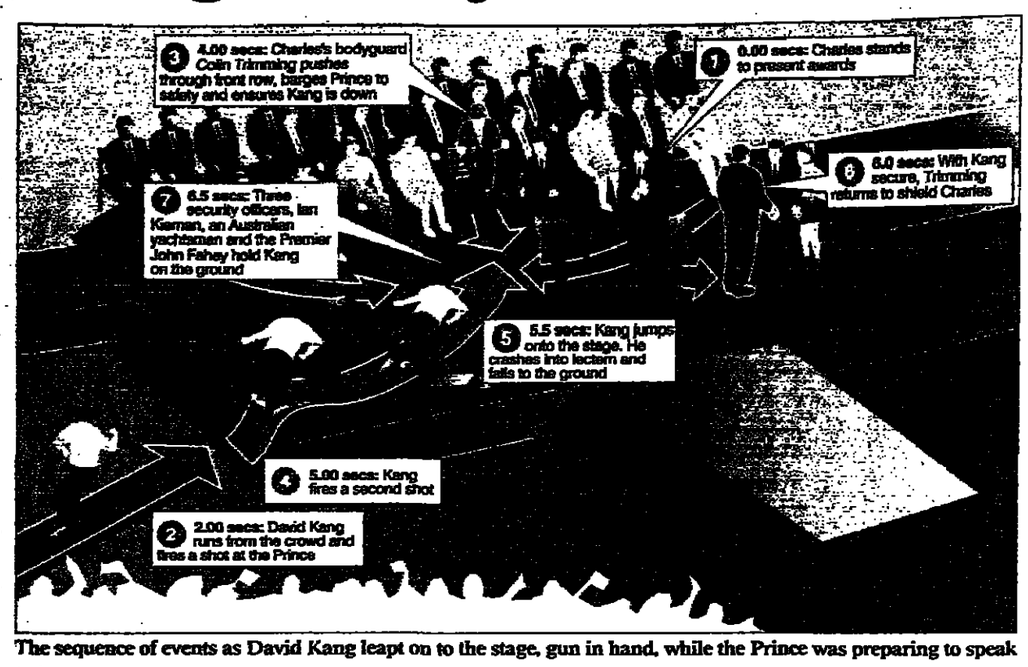
VISION

THE 7-DAY TV & RADIO GUIDE

Royals must live with danger, says Princess



David Kang is led away after the gun scare in Sydney. He will appear in court today charged with six offences



The sequence of events as David Kang leapt on to the stage, gun in hand, while the Prince was preparing to speak



The Princess Royal: "Life's too short"

BY RICHARD FORD AND STEWART TENDLER

THE Princess Royal shrugged off the risks to the royal family as news of the attack on the Prince of Wales reached Britain yesterday.

The Princess, who survived an armed kidnap attempt in 1974, told BBC Radio 4 *Woman's Hour*: "I think it is a permanent possibility, I am afraid. We just have to live with it. Just travelling around has its own risks, but then so does getting out of bed. So, life's too short, really ..."

The incident in the Mall when the deranged gunman Ian Ball tried to seize the Princess from her car, shooting and wounding her bodyguard in the process, prompted the Yard's royalty protection branch, SO14, to modernise its techniques.

The number of officers in the unit has increased to 80 and they follow protection courses adapted from SAS manuals. During a three-week course at the Yard's firearms school at Lippetts Hill, outside London, they hone their shooting skills to be able to turn, identify a target seven metres away and put two shots into it within three seconds.

The first rule is to protect their charge come what may and retreat to safety. One trainer said: "The last thing we want is to have a fight. Protect the VIP." Protection officers such as Supt Colin Trimming, who was on duty yesterday, either work alongside their charges or as part of a team of up to four officers who pave the way, checking security arrangements and liaising with local forces. Abroad, officers may continue to carry guns by arrangement with the host country and local police.

But for all their efforts, they recognise they cannot give the royal family or any VIP complete cover unless their charge renounces contact with the public. Despite security scares, the Queen and her family are adamant about maintaining public appearances, and frequent walkabouts have added to the nightmares of personal protection officers.

Previous attacks on members of the royal family include:

1994 Princess of Wales mobbed by fans as she left the Royal Opera House in Covent Garden. Police protection had been removed at her request.

1990 Maori threw wet T-shirt at the Queen during New Zealand visit.

1989 Princess of Wales in security scare when Ted Adcock lunged at her during a walkabout at Cramlington, Northumberland.

1987 IRA supporter wrestled to the ground in New York as Duchess of York left a car.

1986 The Queen hit by an egg hurled at open car at Ellerslie racecourse, Auckland, New Zealand.

1982 Michael Fagan walked into the Queen's bedroom in Buckingham Palace to chat with her.

1981 Marcus Sarjeant, 17, fired six blank shots at the Queen at the Trooping the Colour. He is said to have vowed to become "the most famous teenager in the world".

1979 Earl Mountbatten of Burma, the Queen's uncle, killed when IRA booby-trap bomb exploded under his boat off Mullaghmore, Co Sligo.

1974 Princess Royal escaped a kidnap attempt in the Mall.

1966 Concrete block hit bonnet of the Queen's car as it drives through Belfast.

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Trimming: at Prince's side for 12 years

Action by bodyguard wins praise

BY RICHARD FORD
HOME CORRESPONDENT

THE policeman who shoulder-barged the Prince of Wales out of the line of fire was praised yesterday by Paul Condon, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner.

Supt Colin Trimming, 47, who has two teenage children, is the Prince's most senior security officer and has been at his side for 12 years. Equally at home in top hat and tails at Royal Ascot or walking the moors at Balmoral in wellington boots and waxed jacket, he won the job because of his ability to blend in.

He was a bodyguard with the Princess Royal from 1975 to 1981 and took up his present post shortly before the Prince's marriage. He is also close to Prince William and Prince Harry, who call him by his first name.

Supt Trimming is an expert marksman with the automatic Glock pistol that he carries under his jacket. He was once shot while on duty at a Balmoral grouse shooting party. A guest missed his target and hit the superintendent in the leg. He is reported to have said: "It is the first time in my career that someone shot at me and I wasn't allowed to shoot back."

Supt Trimming became a member of the Royal Victorian Order in 1985. His marriage broke down six years later.

Protest letter and Christmas wishes

THE following is the text of an exchange of letters apparently between David Kang and the Prince of Wales's equerry, shown by Sydney's Channel 9 yesterday and obtained by the Press Association. Kang's letter reads:

To the Private Secretary

Please convey my good wishes and a happy Christmas to Prince Charles.

My name is David Kang. I live in Sydney, Australia. I am a 23-year-old university student. The reason I am writing to you is because I wish to raise a subject matter that is of great urgency.

Are you aware of the plight of the "boat people" in Australia? To date there are up to 300 Cambodian refugees who are being held in detention camps, in Villawood and Port Headland. Some of them have been behind barbed wire for almost four years now. There are children who have been born whilst in custody, and thus, have no perception of the outside world. Recently, when I visited Villawood Detention Centre in Sydney, the children would cry at the sight of a car, since they think it is a strange monster. What I find intolerable is the children who have absolutely nothing to do. Only a few receive two hours of education each day. They are suffering at the hands of the Immigration Department. The Immigration Department has relentlessly enforced a racist policy of "exclusion".

Private Secretary, would you kindly pass this letter to Prince Charles, and raise this matter with Him. I know that Prince Charles is visiting Australia in January. I would like Him to become aware of the situation, so he could perhaps visit Villawood Detention Centre, while he is in Sydney. No doubt, the Australian authorities will try there [sic] hardest to conceal the grim reality.

The Cambodian refugees are suffering. Please Sir, it is a modern-day concentration camp.

Yours faithfully
David Kang

PS: Please write a letter of reply. Happy Christmas.

The Prince's equerry, Commander Robert Fraser, replied:

Dear Mr Kang

Thank you for your letter of 7th December with your kind message of Christmas greetings and concerning the "boatpeople" in Australia.

His Royal Highness will well understand the strength of your concerns but his programme for his visit to Australia has already been confirmed and this is not a matter with which he could become personally involved.

Yours sincerely
Commander Robert Fraser, RN

Fate of monarchy is up to you, Prince tells Australia

FROM ALAN HAMILTON IN SYDNEY

THE Prince of Wales last night graciously and calmly conceded the possibility that Australia might become a republic, and that those who advocated its severing of ties with the monarchy might well be right.

But in the keynote speech of his 12-day official visit he stressed that the decision was one for Australians themselves, and that until such a day arrived the royal family would continue to take a close personal interest in the welfare and fortunes of the country.

Speaking less than an hour after the shooting incident in a Sydney park, and looking relaxed and composed, the Prince chose Australia Day to make public his recognition that the world in general, and Australia in particular, was changing, but at the same time to express his personal fondness for and attachment to the country.

Royal aides stressed that the Prince had taken a "positively detached" stance on the republican question, and that he had in no way conceded defeat. However, he added an intensely personal dimension to the Queen's stated view that the issue was one for Australian democratic choice, and he inserted a reminder that a monarchical system was by no means all bad.



Keating: promised referendum delayed

Speaking to an invited audience of 1,400 in the Darling Harbour convention centre on the Sydney waterfront, the prince said: "The world moves on, conditions change, new challenges present themselves, lessons are perhaps learned and fashions alter."

He added: "Maybe I'm wrong, but I suspect that a feeling of not knowing quite where we are is fairly widespread in human societies today. It is therefore perhaps not surprising that there are those who would wish to see such a rapidly changing world reflected by a change in Australia's institutions ... Some people will doubtless prefer the stability of a system that has been reasonably well tried and tested over the years, while others will see real advantages in doing things differently."

The Prince said his main point was that the matter was something which only the Australian people could decide. "Personally, I happen to think that it is a sign of a mature and self-confident nature to debate those issues and to use the democratic process to re-examine the way in which you want to face the future."

The Prince was clearly underlining the Queen's view that she will accept any decision, provided it is arrived at democratically. A referendum promised by Paul Keating, the pro-republican Prime Minister, has been postponed until after the next general election, and will now take place in 1997 at the earliest.

"Whatever course you ultimately decide upon, I can only say that I will always have an enormous affection for this country," the Prince said.

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Troubleshooter to check standards

Health chief tightens cancer screening

BY NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

CANCER screening procedures for women are to be tightened after a series of embarrassing mistakes put patients' lives at risk.

The changes, announced by Dr. Kenneth Calman, the Chief Medical Officer, follow the disclosure last year that medical staff had made basic errors in carrying out cervical smear tests.

Dr. Calman conceded that there had been a number of well-reported cases where cervical smears, designed to detect the first signs of cancer, had been carried out incorrectly. He told a conference organised by the *British Medical Journal*: "I believe the time has come to take further steps to improve the management and quality of the cervical screening programme."

A new national co-ordinator of the programme in the NHS is to be appointed by April, to develop and check national standards. Women asked to attend clinics will be given better information so that they know what to expect, and guidance will be issued to all general practice nurses reminding them of the correct way to carry out the tests.

In laboratories where the smear tests are examined, tighter quality control may be needed, Dr Calman said. Research would be done to evaluate the efficacy of the programme.

Last spring, thousands of smears had to be rechecked by the Argyll and Clyde Health Board after a woman discovered she had cancer despite a test result which showed she was clear. There was further embarrassment several months later when women in Birmingham had to have repeat tests because a nurse had mistakenly used a wooden spatula designed for mouth examinations.

The current national programme of screening is designed to provide all women between the ages of 20 and 65 with at least one test every five years to provide an early warning of cancer. Since the screening programme began in 1989, the death rate from cervical cancer has fallen from nearly 2,000 a year to 1,500.

Some experts have argued that more frequent tests would produce better results, but Dr Calman said yesterday that it was vital first to achieve high take-up.

He said: "It would not be right at this stage to move to a shorter screening period nationally until we can be sure that in every area we are reaching as many women as is possible."

Dawn Primarolo, the shadow health minister, said the new measures did not go far enough. "Confidence in the cervical screening programme has clearly been dented and it is absolutely vital for women's health that it is restored," she said.

Letters, page 17

MICHAEL POWELL



Margaret Hobbs displays the silver wine taster, made in 1607, found in a shoebox

Roadshow treasures go on sale

BY JOHN SHAW

AN £80,000 silver collection kept in old shoeboxes at a house in West Sussex and discovered after an *Antiques Roadshow* programme is to be sold.

Margaret Hobbs, 59, from Crawley, took a small bowl to experts when the BBC television show visited the town in September. They identified it as an English silver wine taster made in 1607 and one of the earliest examples of its type. It is expected to fetch up to £15,000.

Its rarity prompted Mrs Hobbs to sell the 15-piece silver collection, which belonged to her husband Harold who died last year. His treasures were found over many years in bric-a-brac shops and other places. They were wrapped in cotton wool and kept in shoeboxes stored at home.

The auction will be at Christie's on March 2. Stephen Clarke, head of the firm's silver department, said yesterday: "It is a choice collection. It is amazing that these things should turn up out after almost 400 years."

Cash cuts ground Met plane

BY NICK NUTTALL, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

SNOOPY, the Meteorological Office's research aircraft, has been grounded to help meet a multimillion-pound funding shortfall. The decision, which it is feared signals a slide in Britain's world-beating weather research, has been condemned by scientists as short-sighted and a tragedy for atmospheric science.

The plane has played a key role in forecasting and improving the accuracy of computer models on global warming.

The Met Office, part of the Ministry of Defence, has been under pressure to make cuts since Britain withdrew from the exchange-rate mechanism. Membership of international agencies such as the World Meteorological Organisation is priced in Swiss francs and the costs have soared since the pound fell on world markets.

Scientists called on the Government to back a rescue package and shift responsibility for the 25-year-old Hercules bristling with pressure, wind speed and other atmospheric sensors to the Office of Science and Technology.

CSA asks vasectomy man to pay up

BY EDWARD GORMAN

THE Child Support Agency was forced yesterday to make a public apology for the second day running after another case emerged of the wrong man being sent a demand for maintenance.

Steve Robey, 30, a lorry driver from Warsop, Nottinghamshire, returned home from holiday with his wife Tracie to find the demand for a six-month-old baby.

Mr Robey, who had a vasectomy four years ago, said: "If it wasn't for the vasectomy and my wife eventually believing me, I could have been thrown out."

The blunder happened because the CSA confused Mr Robey with a man of the same name who the agency thought was also born on the same day. When the real father, who lived near by, was traced, it was discovered he was six years older then Mr Robey.

Mrs Robey said her husband went to his local CSA office to demand an apology the day after they received the letter, but staff told him it would be made only after the real father had been found. That took almost a month.

The CSA headquarters in London said: "The CSA has apologised to Mr Robey and his family. There's no question there is regret about this and any distress and embarrassment it has caused."

On Tuesday, Janet Sheppard of Bristol told of her devastation at opening a letter from the agency demanding maintenance from her husband Steven for a ten-year-old daughter by another woman.

Blood test 'endangers transfusion patients'

BY NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

A BLOOD specialist has said that he can no longer reassure patients about the quality of blood used in transfusions, after being told that a new test for hepatitis B is too expensive.

"Hard luck if you get liver failure or develop cirrhosis or cancer unnecessarily," says Dr Peter Hamilton, a consultant haematologist at the Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle upon Tyne. His comments, in a letter in the *British Medical Journal*, concern a test said to be more reliable than current screening.

"This week my blood transfusion director told me that the Government has decided that it is too expensive to test blood in this way," Dr Hamilton wrote. "As a result, blood for transfusion is not as safe as it could be and the risk of transmitting hepatitis B is higher than it need be."

The National Blood Authority said yesterday that discussions had been held with the Department of Health over the test and it had been decided that in view of the relatively low incidence of hepatitis B, it would not be cost-effective to introduce it.

The authority said donors were screened for hepatitis B antigens and any that had them were excluded from giving blood. Dr Hamilton would like a further test to identify the hepatitis B antibody in donated blood.

The Department of Health said the decision not to use the test was based on scientific evidence, not cost. A separate test is used to check for HIV.

Budgie dies from passive smoking

BY EDWARD GORMAN

THE death of a budgerigar has been blamed on passive smoking. Six-year-old Peter, whose owner smokes 40 cigarettes a day, fell off its perch two days after being diagnosed as suffering from lung cancer.

Eileen Wilson, 81, noticed that her blue-feathered bird, who could say "Are you going shopping?" and "Eileen's pretty boy", had stopped talking. A vet concluded that he was probably suffering from lung cancer as a result of her smoking.

Mrs Wilson, of South Bank, Cleveland, who has smoked heavily since she was 17, said: "I loved that budgie. He was like a human being to me and it broke my heart."

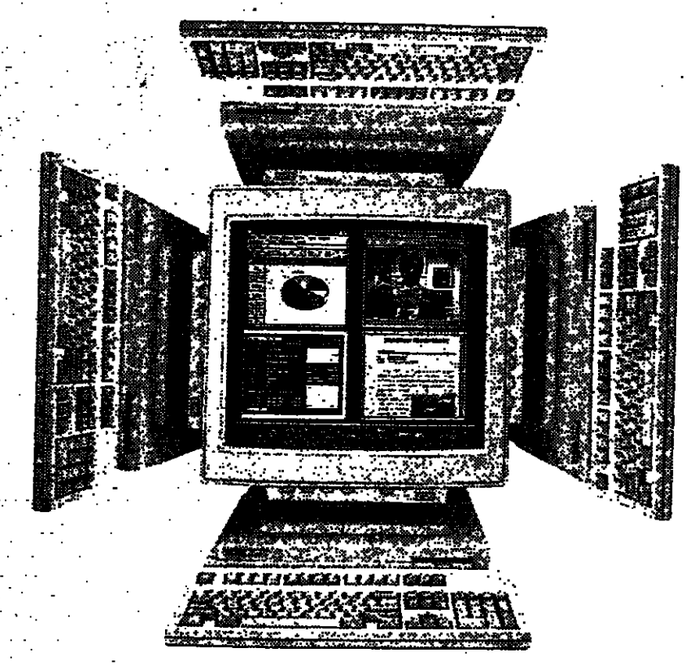
But its death would not make her give up her habit. "I've aways smoked and the last bird I had lasted 12 years."

The vet, David Talbot, said that budgerigars were prone to cancers and had a sensitive respiratory system affected by ash and dust. He found Peter to be suffering from severe respiratory stress, almost certainly caused by a tumour. Mr Talbot appealed to owners of caged birds to think of their pets' welfare before lighting up.

Experts say that other kinds of pets are unlikely to suffer the same fate. Mike Stockman, a former president of the Veterinary Association, said that there was no evidence of dogs or cats contracting cancer from their owners' cigarettes. They were better protected than birds because they were usually free to leave a smoke-filled room.

Meanwhile, Mrs Wilson has replaced her bird with another budgie, also called Peter. But she has moved its cage further away from her armchair.

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School governors under attack as battle lines are drawn over headmistress's future

Council considers court action over Romeo-ban teacher

BY DOMINIC KENNEDY

■ Jane Brown's supporters claim that the primary school on one of London's toughest estates will close if she is suspended

HACKNEY Council will consider court action to gain a judicial review if school governors continue to refuse to suspend Jane Brown, the headmistress at the centre of the "heterosexual" *Romeo and Juliet* row.

Gus John, Hackney's education director, said: "This decision on the part of the governing body to ignore my recommendation raises serious constitutional issues."

He said the education authority "has responsibility for the education of Hackney children to try to ensure the proper management of our schools. The governors' action has prevented me from carrying out that responsibility."

In a statement issued before its meeting last night, the council urged the school to set up a disciplinary panel to investigate Ms Brown's professional conduct and consider whether there may have been any conflict of interests.

John McCafferty, the council leader, said: "It is now up to the governors to take action over these issues in the best interests of the school."

Extraordinary alliances formed yesterday as the players in the dispute over the banned ballet divided into two camps. On one side stands Ms Brown, backed by the white, black and Asian working-class parents of one of Britain's more deprived communities, and the governors of the local school.

On the other stands the might of a left-wing London borough, with the massed ranks of the professional educational establishment.

Ms Brown, who banned her pupils from seeing the ballet because it was "a blatantly heterosexual love story", was back at work yesterday after a remarkable show of strength by the governors of Kingsmead primary school.

They voted overwhelmingly to reject a recommendation by the council that Ms Brown be suspended pending an investigation into the ban and the circumstances of her appointment by a panel that included Nicki Thorogood, the former chair of governors with whom Ms Brown lives.

There was fresh comfort for Ms Brown yesterday as supporters tied a banner to the railings of the 165-pupil school bearing the message: "Keep on keeping on Jane! With love."

Parents, who were at first split over her decision, are now almost unanimous in her favour.

One who delivered her children to the school yesterday felt it unjust that the authorities still wanted to suspend her. "If Ms Brown goes, that school will be closed down," Marion Baker, whose son and daughter attend Kingsmead, said.

Supporters of Ms Brown feel she is being used as a political football. They feel it is unfair to criticise her for expressing opinions that reflect the borough's traditional stance on equal opportunities.

KINGSMEAD PRIMARY SCHOOL
Verdict on Jane Brown

Dawn Smith, parent of six-year-old pupil	"We took our little girl out of another school because of bullying and brought her here. Jane Brown solved all her problems, and nothing is too much trouble for her when we as parents ask for help."
Ken Hanson, chair of governors	"She is a very good teacher and has done some very good things for the school, but I think she has created an atmosphere which is unacceptable. It is true that during the last two years or so the school has moved forward dramatically."
Gus John, director of education and leisure	"Jane Brown was deputy head teacher before she was head, and as far as I am aware there have been no other matters to do with curriculum content or educational delivery that have been of concern to me or to the education inspectors."
Kevin Rosamand, parent of two children	"It doesn't make any difference if she is living with a woman or not. She is doing an excellent job as head teacher; she has improved morale and we want her to stay."
Sandra Curtis, parent of eight-year-old son	"I'm not keen on her, in fact I don't like her, we just don't click. This ban on *Romeo and Juliet* doesn't surprise me: she has already banned Christmas, and I've never seen her in a skirt."





GUS JOHN has been director of education and leisure for Hackney since the borough inherited responsibility from the abolished Inner London Eduction Authority in 1990. With a strong track record of anti-racism and anti-sexism, he has made raising classroom standards his priority and won a reputation for firm leadership and no-nonsense management. Born in Grenada, he is a former head of community education for Ilea and is London's first black education chief officer.



RICHARD RIESER is secretary of the Hackney Teachers' Association, the borough's National Union of Teachers' branch, and has been a union activist for 12 years.

An experienced teacher, he now works for the organisation Disability Equality, lecturing on how to improve educational standards for the disabled and in special schools. He has spoken of possible industrial action by teachers in Hackney who are unhappy about suspensions. He has complained that the local authority fails to give adequate support to staff teaching in difficult circumstances.



JANE BROWN, 36, is a career teacher with 15 years' experience. She studied for a Bachelor of Education degree at Avery Hill College and later took a Masters with London University's Institute of Education. Having taught in Bexley, Kent, and London Fields, east London, she moved to Kingsmead as a teacher in 1987. She was promoted to deputy head two years later and became head teacher in 1992. Kingsmead's governors have voted 5-1 against suspending her.

KEN HANSON became chair of governors at Kingsmead last November. Two of his four children had attended the primary school. A former mayor of Hackney, he has been a Labour councillor since 1982 and was active in the National Union of Railwaymen until accepting redundancy from his job at a Tube maintenance depot last year.

He was a community campaigner for the Kingsmead Estate Tenants' Association and has been a governor of various schools since 1969. He was the only governor to support the authority's call for Ms Brown's suspension.

Clerks put case to Mackay

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Lord Chancellor has agreed to meet a top-level delegation of magistrates and justices' clerks tomorrow over changes they seek to the controversial Police and Magistrates' Bill.

The move indicates that Lord Mackay of Clashfern may be prepared to change part of the Bill dealing with magistrates' courts, just as Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, is expected to back down on some of the police provisions.

The Bill has already come under fierce attack from an unprecedented line-up of peers, including the Lord Chief Justice and two former Home Secretaries.

So far Lord Mackay has not indicated any changes. But officials are believed to be re-examining the fine print of the Bill to see if they can accommodate some of the magistrates' main concerns.

The magistrates and the Lord Chief Justice are concerned that the Bill threatens the judicial independence of justices' clerks by putting them on fixed-term contracts and performance-related pay, and making them answerable to a chief justices' clerk whose appointment has to be approved by the Lord Chancellor.

Rosemary Thomson, chairman of the Magistrates' Association, said that the groups meeting Lord Mackay — which represent all the bodies in the magistrates' court service — are seeking a number of key amendments. In particular they want to bolster the safeguards in the Bill regarding judicial independence by ensuring that the protection covers all powers conferred on justices' clerks by primary and secondary legislation, including the granting of legal aid or any new judicial powers given in the future.

They also want to ensure that magistrates' court committees, who run the courts, have the power they need to run their local service. This includes decisions on whether to allow fixed-term contracts for the justices' clerks.

A third concern is to ensure that the Lord Chancellor does not take power to amalgamate magistrates' court areas without the consent of the court committees themselves. They also want the new chief justices' clerks to be called chief executives, to make it clear that their function is managerial, not judicial.

Father vanishes while shopping with son

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A FATHER has gone missing after leaving his nine-year-old son in a busy car-park.

Grant Price, 43, an accountant with Southampton City Council, drove his son David into Gosport on Saturday morning. They were walking towards town when the boy remembered he had left something in the vehicle. Mr Price went back to the car but, instead of returning to his son, he drove away.

Mr Price, who has worked for the council since 1988, has not been seen since. His son was taken to Gosport police station after shoppers found him crying in the car-park.

Mr Price's wallet, empty but for his credit cards, was later found ten miles away in a remote area near Cosham by a man out walking. Police say they fear for his life.

Last night, his wife Isobel, 39, said she was at a loss to explain her husband's disappearance. The couple, who live in Lee-on-the-Solent, also have a daughter aged 15.

Mrs Price said they were all in a state of shock. "I'm really worried. It is totally out of character for him to do anything like this. He'd been a bit down, but only because of the stress of everyday life."

Mr Price is 6ft 1in, thin and has collar length fair hair. When last seen, he was wearing metal rimmed glasses, blue jeans, a black and green fleece jacket, and trainers. He was driving a blue Vauxhall Astra, registration number L368 TOR.

EastEnders actress to appeal

BY MICHAEL HORSNELL

GILLIAN Taylforth and her fiancé Geoffrey Knights, who face finanical ruin after losing their "sex romp" libel action against *The Sun*, are to appeal against the verdict, their solicitor said last night.

The outcome of the High Court case has left the 38-year-old actress — who plays the cafe owner Kathy Beale in the BBC1 soap opera *EastEnders* — and Mr Knights facing a legal bill estimated at £500,000.

William Garnett, their solicitor, said: "It is our intention at the moment to appeal. We are taking the necessary steps." He said the couple were particularly disappointed with Mr Justice Drake's summing up and felt it "tipped the scales of justice".

At the same time it emerged that the Government has no plans to speed up reform of the libel laws. The Lord Chancellor's Department announced yesterday that moves to simplify procedures will be introduced as soon as parliamentary time allows, which is unlikely in the present session.

Simplification of the defamation rules has been in the pipeline for more than a year, since the Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay of Clashfern, accepted a report from a working group under Lord Justice Neill.

Lord Mackay wants changes introduced to reduce the complexity of the rules, without affecting the interests of justice, and to minimise the role of lawyers.

The most important reforms include an "offer of amends" defence, enabling a defendant to curtail proceedings by making an offer where he or she accepts a plaintiff has been defamed and is willing to pay damages assessed by a judge.

A new summary procedure would enable the plaintiff to recover damages up to a modest fixed ceiling and an apology or correction in the interests of a cheap and speedy resolution.

Paul Boateng, Labour's legal affairs spokesman, said the current libel law was an expensive farce. He said: "It has become a game played out between the rich and the famous on the one hand and the media, particularly the tabloids, on the other, with the jury holding the ring. Something needs to be done about that."

William Rees-Mogg, page 16

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Broadcasting survey

Foul-mouthed films worry TV watchdog

By Alexandra Frean, Media Correspondent

TELEVISION programmes and films imported from the United States have a fifth more violence than those made in Britain and are three times more likely to include bad language, according to a Broadcasting Standards Council report.

Satellite movie channels contain twice as many violent incidents per hour than the BBC, ITV or Channel 4, the report on violence, sex and language shows.

Lady Howe, the council's chairwoman, said at the launch of the report yesterday that strict guidelines on violence introduced last July by the BBC and commercial broadcasters appeared not to have been followed.

Violent scenes on terrestrial television rose from an average 2.9 scenes an hour in 1992 to four an hour last year. News and factual programmes accounted for 86 per cent of this rise, partly as a result of coverage of the war in the former Yugoslavia. While 52 per cent of programmes on terrestrial channels had some violence, it rose to 73 per cent on satellite, where violent scenes lasted 25 per cent longer on average. The rate of violence was highest for satellite channels Sky Movies Plus, The Movie Channel and Sky Movies Gold.

Lady Howe said: "If people's acceptance of violence has been blunted, and if broadcasters now feel they need to increase the degree of violence to get a reaction, then we would be concerned."

BSkyB said that the survey was unrepresentative and unreliable. "We are covered by the same regulations as other commercial broadcasters," a spokeswoman said.

Viewers felt only 1 to 2 per cent of violent scenes were unjustified. The findings also show that the 9pm watershed is strictly observed by terrestrial broadcasters.

The portrayal of sexual activity on television has been tempered. While sexual intercourse was portrayed 11 times in 1992, it was not represented at all last year.

The report is based on an objective content analysis of programmes shown between September 17 and 23 last year and on viewing diaries kept by 400 viewers that month.

☐ British culture is ready to take on the world, with television leading the way as one of the country's biggest exports, the Foreign Secretary said yesterday.

The Government would do all it could to remove unnecessary restrictions so cultural exports could flourish, Douglas Hurd told the Diplomatic and Commonwealth Writers' Association in London. Culture could cross national borders despite obstacles, he said.

Exports by British broadcasters exceeded £150 million a year.

Letters, page 17

BBC finds the key to Picasso's platonic muse



Sylvette Davide, now an artist, at the Tate Gallery

By Alison Roberts
Arts Reporter

ONE of Picasso's favourite models has been found in Devon and reunited with the sculpture she inspired. The reunion has been arranged for a BBC celebration of the Tate Gallery's blockbuster Picasso exhibition, which opens next month.

Sylvette Davide, 59, is now an artist living in Britain. She was "discovered" by Teresa Griffiths, producer of a BBC film who, coincidentally, used to live next door to the former model in Devon. The curators of the Tate exhibition, which argues that Picasso's sculpture was as important as his painting, doubted whether Ms Davide was still alive.

Elizabeth Cowling, senior lecturer in fine art at Edinburgh University and a co-curator, has linked Ms Davide with one of Picasso's most important metal sculptures, *Woman with the Key*. Although the model thought the sculpture "too ugly" to be her, original sketches prove it was based on her likeness.

Pablo Picasso met Ms Davide in Vallauris, the village in the south of France where he lived, when he was 73 and she 17. Unlike many of his models, who included the ballet dancer Olga Khoklova, who was his first wife, Francoise Gilot, the mother of his children Paloma and Claude, and Jacqueline Roque, with whom he lived, Ms Davide was a platonic muse.



Picasso and the teenage Ms Davide in Vallauris

She always posed fully clothed and it was her face, rather than her body, that inspired a range of Cubist painting and sculpture. At a screening of the BBC's film, *Picasso and the Model*, Ms Davide was brought face to face with *Woman with the Key* for the first time in many years. She described herself as "very moved".

"I think the key is a key to the house," she said. "Picasso liked women to stay in the house."

☐ *Picasso and the Model*, BBC2, February 17.

Tough line on tobacco

Virginia Bottomley will announce next week a tightening of the guidelines on cigarette advertising. It is expected to be banned from posters and women's magazines. The Health Secretary will tell MPs the 20-year-old voluntary agreement governing tobacco advertising will be redrawn.

Mrs Bottomley wants to reduce the prevalence of smoking in over-16s to 20 per cent by the year 2000 and is aiming for at least a third of women smokers to stop by the start of pregnancy.

Fire deaths

Joanne Moore, 23, who suffered 40 per cent burns rescuing her seven-month-old daughter Hannah from a fire at Almondsbury, Avon, failed to save the lives of her two other daughters, aged two and three.

Accident cash

Darren Prosser, 31, who lost an arm and a leg in an accident which killed two men at British Steel's Port Talbot plant, was yesterday awarded damages of £650,000 at Cardiff Crown Court.

Stony ground

A £40,000 "trans-plant" operation to save thousands of rare plants from a Tesco site in Solihull, West Midlands, has failed. Most of the plants have died in their new home four miles away.

Never too late

Charles Fletcher, a retired factory designer from Forest Town, Nottinghamshire, has a new spring in his step after being fitted with a heart pacemaker at the age of 102.

Michelin names its rising stars

By Robin Young

TWENTY TWO restaurants in Britain and Ireland have been promoted in the star ratings of the 1994 Michelin Guide, published today.

Only two restaurants, the Waterside Inn at Bray, Berkshire, and La Tante Claire in Chelsea, qualify for the top three-star rating.

There are three newcomers to the two-star rank: Lettonie in Bristol, Paul Heathcote's in Longridge, Lancashire, and the Altnaharrie Inn at Ullapool in the Highlands — the first establishment in Scotland to win two stars.

Ten more restaurants than last year have one star, bringing the total to 52. The newcomers are: Fischer's at Baslow Hall, Baslow, Derbyshire; Lords of the Manor at Bourton-on-the-Water, Gloucestershire; Restaurant Nineteen in Bradford; Harvey's in Bristol; The Epicurean in Cheltenham; Mr Underhill's at Earl Stonham, Suffolk; Harry's Place in Grantham, Lincolnshire; Manley's in Storrington, West Sussex; Pennypots in Truro; Winteringham Fields in Winteringham, Humberside; Longueville Manor in St Saviour, Jersey; and in London: Leith's, The Canteen, Les Saveurs, The Square, and the Grill Room at the Café Royal.

The Commons in Dublin and The Park, Kenmare, gain stars in Ireland, and a star is restored to Inverlochy Castle at Fort William. Another 71 restaurants of the 1,085 in the book qualify for Red Meal awards, denoting that they produce "carefully prepared meals worthy of attention".

☐ *Michelin Red Hotel and Restaurant Guide Great Britain and Ireland* (£10.95)

KEENE on CHESS

By Raymond Keene
Chess Correspondent

Fide Qualifiers

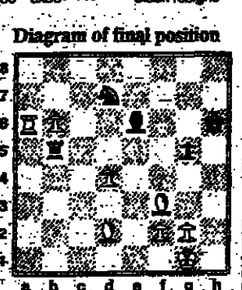
QUALIFIERS from four of the six Fide matches in Wijk aan Zee are now known. Salov has beaten Khalifman by 5-1 while Anand has defeated Yusupov, Kramnik has beaten Yudasin and Kamsky has beaten van der Sterren all by the score of 4½-2½. Meanwhile, Lautier and Michael Adams of England are still fighting a rear-guard action to avoid elimination, respectively against Timman and Gelfand.

White: Boris Gelfand
Black: Michael Adams
Fide Candidates, Game 4,
Wijk aan Zee January 1994

Queen's Gambit Accepted

1	d4	d5
2	c4	dxc4
3	e3	e5
4	Bxc4	exd4
5	exd4	Nf6
6	Nf3	Be7
7	0-0	0-0
8	h3	Nc6
9	Nc3	Ne5
10	Bd3	Be6
11	Re1	Nc6
12	a3	Qc8
13	Be3	Nd5
14	Qc2	Kh8
15	Rad1	f5
16	Bc1	Rad8
17	Re2	Bf6
18	Rde1	Bc8
19	Bc4	Nxc3
20	bxc3	h6
21	a4	b6
22	h4	Ne5
23	Be2	c5
24	Ng5	Be8
25	Re6	Qd7
26	Qd5	Bxg5
27	Qg8	Qf7
28	Qd7	Rd7
29	hxg5	cxd4
30	cxd4	Bc4
31	Re8+	Rxe8
32	Rxe8+	Kh7
33	Bb1+	g6
34	gxh6	Nc6
35	Be8	Re7
36	Rc8	Bd5
37	Bd3	Nb4
38	Be2	Be6
39	Rd8	Nd5
40	Bg5	Rd7
41	Re8	Bf7
42	Rb8	Be6
43	Bf3	Rf7
44	Rd8	Rf5
45	Bd2	Nf6
46	Re8	g5
47	Rxe7+	Kxh6
48	Re6	Nd7
49	a5	Rb5
50	axb6	Black resigns

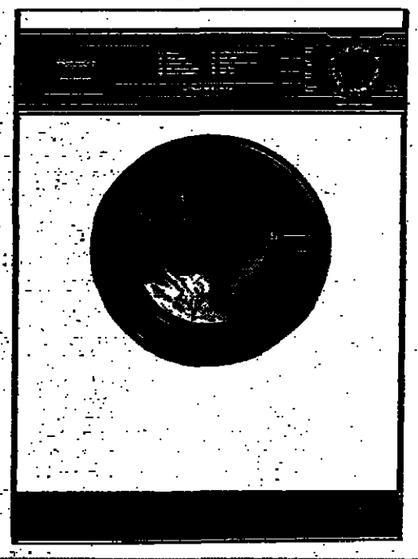
Diagram of final position



Winning Move, page 44



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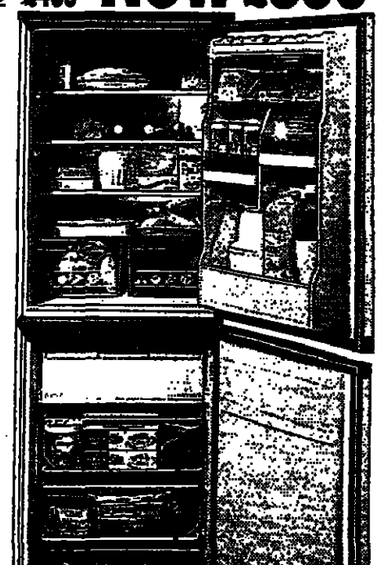


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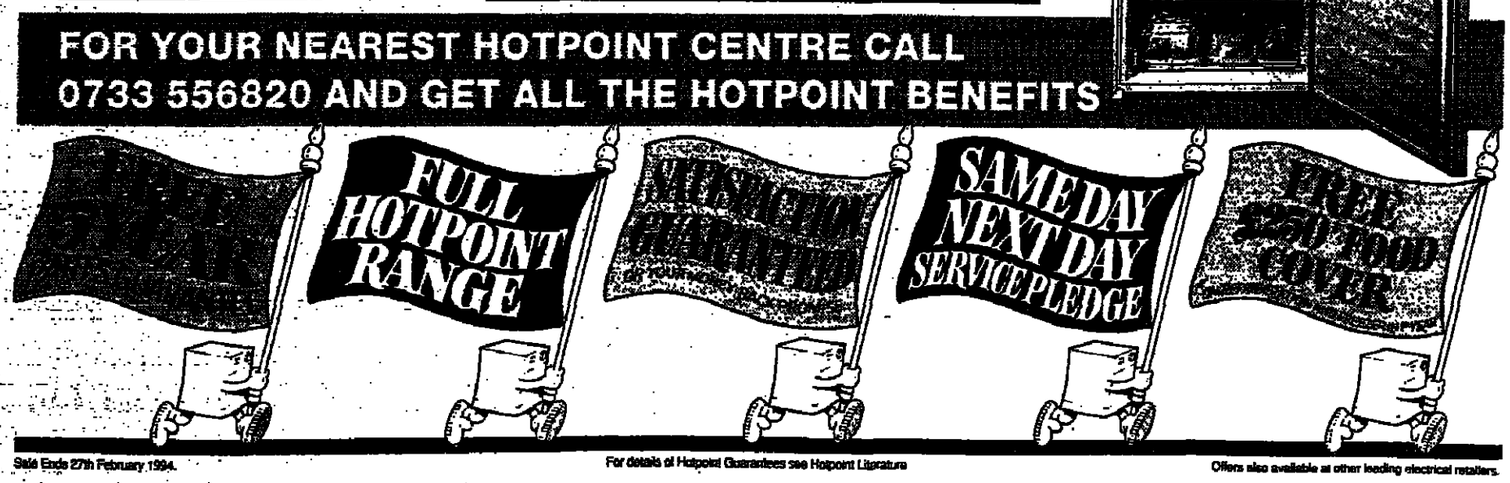
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Labour steps up warfare

BY PHILIP WEBSTER
POLITICAL EDITOR

LABOUR was accused last night of trying to wreck the parliamentary process as it stepped up its campaign of guerrilla warfare in the Commons. In a rarely used tactic, some 20 Labour MPs objected to a raft of formal orders by standing up in their places in the chamber.

It means debates on a series of uncontroversial statutory instruments, normally dealt with in committees, could take up to 20 hours of the Commons time in the next few weeks.

After a protest from Sir Peter Emery, chairman of the Commons procedure committee, Betty Boothroyd, the Speaker, said: "I assume every member here by the individual action they take knows exactly what they are doing." Government ministers said the action proved that Labour's tactics had extended to trying to obstruct Parliament, rather than merely frustrating Government business.

Sex scandals boost women politicians

BY ALICE THOMSON, POLITICAL REPORTER

WOULD-BE women MPs could be the beneficiaries of the sex scandals and resignations that have rocked the Conservative Party in recent weeks. That was the whispered conclusion yesterday of a lunch hosted by Tory Central Office aimed at boosting the party's female contingent in the Commons.

Suffolk woman has already put paid to the ministerial career of Tim Yeo, the Environment Minister, who resigned after fathering a child outside his marriage. Now there are signs that she is prepared to abandon her long-held prejudice against her own sex.

Ambitious women did not coin the slogan "back to basics" but, as one prospective candidate said yesterday, a working day spent juggling husbands, careers and children leaves precious little time for extramarital affairs.

As some of the 20 prospective women Tory candidates who joined Dame Angela Rumbold, a Tory deputy chairman, for the lunch pointed out, one of their chief obstacles in the past has been the blue-rinse stalwarts who dominate selection committees. They used to think that women with children had no place in the Commons, but now they are beginning to have second thoughts.

The Tory women could hardly conceal their glee at Labour's embarrassment. After years of deriding positive discrimination, they have been able to witness the fiasco of Labour's shadow Cabinet elections when a new women's quota backfired.

Dame Angela is the first woman to take on responsibility for the candidates department at Conservative Central Office and, with her appointment, applications have risen. There are already 13 women candidates fighting Euro-seats this year, and 56 per cent of women applicants for the candidates' list are successful, compared to only 42 per cent of men.

However, there are still only 19 female Conservative MPs, andyesterday few put forward any ideas that would help more women into the House.

This was partly because there is a new policy of promoting older female candidates. Baroness Seccombe, a party vice-chairman with responsibility for women, said: "Men decide early on if they want to be MPs. Women tend to get involved more slowly. I don't think it is a problem if the women MPs are 20 years older than the men."

Two role models were Virginia Bottomley, the Health Secretary, who has helped various candidates, and Sir Denis Thatcher. An understanding husband is still considered one of the greatest assets a woman can have. "If you haven't got your husband behind you, you can't do it," said Caroline Spelman, who was pregnant while she was fighting the traditioual mining seat of Bassetlaw in the last general election.

Appearance is also vital. There were 22 pairs of black patent shoes and black tights. A woman in a magenta suit whisked out a colour chart from her handbag. "This is the most valuable thing in my life," she said.



Brown seeks tax loophole for election battle

Gordon Brown did not need to be reminded by Sir Norman Fowler that Labour is vulnerable on taxes and spending. He has been preaching that message to his party for over a year and has, as a result, been criticised by many in the shadow Cabinet for being too cautious. The latest row over taxes and spending has vindicated his position and shown how tricky the issue is for Labour.

It is surprising how long it has taken for the Tories to make the point. After dithering for nearly ten days, the agreed line now has some plausibility: it is necessary to raise taxes to sort out public finances and have low interest rates and sustained economic recovery.

No matter that past Government errors caused the problem and voters are unlikely to be forgiving in the short term. The Tories can at least unite around candid masochism, especially when coupled with attacks on the Opposition. Labour speaks with two voices, if not more, on spending and taxes.

Mr Brown can justifiably claim that there are "no commitments" on spending at this stage. The official line remains that spending will only rise when resources become available. Mr Brown's view has prevailed, for instance, in the discussions on the consultation paper on health, approved yesterday by the national executive committee. This contains none of the previous pledges on restoring underfunding.

But that is only half the story. As Tory leaders have eagerly pointed out, Labour conferences have approved motions proposing big increases in spending on nursery education, overseas aid, pensions, housing, industrial aid and a national minimum wage. Technically, these will merely be taken into account when a manifesto is drawn up and are not commitments. But there is, as Michael Portillo argued last night, a contrast between Mr Brown's financial rectitude and the promises of extra spending made by spokesmen to interest groups.

Moreover, the public believes that Labour wants to increase spending, and that will mean higher taxes. The Tory propaganda reinforces longstanding public views. That is what Mr Brown has been battling to change with his repeated statements that Labour does not want to tax and spend for its own sake. But building up public trust on this issue will take a long time, as John Smith underlined with his warning to the shadow Cabinet last night about not giving ammunition to the Tories.

The inherent difficulty is that Labour does, after all, support active government. It does not want to roll back the public sector. Many Labour MPs believe a low-spending low-tax approach is wrong as well as implausible. Mr Brown is trying to square the circle by seeking to demonstrate the link between taxes people pay and the benefits they receive. One solution, suggested by, amongst others, Paddy Ashdown, the Demos think tank and David Blunkett, would be to hypothecate or earmark taxes for particular projects. That creates problems in planning Budgets: if a commitment has been made to a particular programme, what happens if income falls short?

But parties now have to justify increased taxes and spending more explicitly. At present Mr Brown is engaged in a holding operation. As the election approaches, the party will be pressed on its detailed commitments. Even if tax helps the party in this year's elections, Labour is probably never going to win on the issue in the long term. But it can reduce the Tories' advantage on what has been an election winner in the past. Tory leaders should not crow too soon over their counter-attack.

PETER RIDDELL

Tory leadership tries to silence party critics

BY ANDREW PIERCE

TORY leaders have tried to silence grassroots critics by banning any motions for debate from constituency associations at the party's Central Council conference in March.

The move, which has angered activists, is in breach of the rulebook, according to many constituency associations which are defying the decision.

Sir Norman Fowler, the party chairman, has ordered a carefully stage-managed conference in Plymouth on March 25, only a few weeks before the May council elections. Sir Basil Feldman, chairman of the National Union which organises the conference, wrote a letter to associations, which says: "We will not require motions for debates from constituencies." But Central Office says time may be provided for a question and answer session.

Sir Norman feared a wave of critical motions from restive party members. Motions were banned for the first time in 1992 because the general election was only weeks away. The same format was followed last year when the party high command set discussion papers.

Members anticipated that this year it would be back to the time-honoured system. Brentford and Isleworth constituency, a marginal Tory seat, has challenged the decision and submitted its own motion. Keith Latham, the agent, said: "The party is snuffing out real debate and criticism of party policy. Many members will not put up with this."

Letters, page 17

In Parliament

Commons (2.30): Questions: agriculture; Prime Minister. Debate on the RAF.
Lords (3): Non-Domestic Rating Bill, second reading. British Nationality (Hong Kong) Bill, committee.

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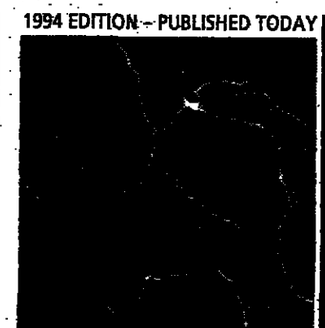
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1994 EDITION – PUBLISHED TODAY



the face of BRITAIN
4
Social trends

All aspects of life in Britain are revealed in the statistics, charts and text in this highly acclaimed and much quoted annual social brief. An essential, and intriguing, read for statisticians, students, lecturers, researchers and businessmen and women.

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Social trends: Britons are much healthier, sometimes wealthier and often wiser than ever

The rich get richer while the poor see income fall

By Ian Murray

THE rich have become richer and the poor relatively poorer since 1979, according to *Social Trends*, the latest annual statistical survey of the nation. *Spending money for those in* the middle groups has remained almost constant over the period.

In the 12 years up to 1991, only those with a present day pre-tax disposable income of more than £38,000 a year saw an increase in the amount they could spend. Those in the lowest-paid category found their disposable income had almost halved over the period and was about one sixth of the amount available to the wealthiest. The gap widens even more when housing costs are taken into account.

Disposable income overall rose between 1991 and 1992, reversing the previous year's fall, but the gap between the highest and lowest paid widened further. Between 1971 and 1993, the lowest wages rose by 27 per cent to £175 a week. Over the same period, wage earners in the top 10 per cent had a 69 per cent increase, bringing their average salary to £567 a week.

The high cost of helping the lowest paid eke out their earnings with income support is highlighted by the figures, which show that in the tax year 1992-93 the bill for this was almost £14.5 billion, a real terms increase of 20 per cent over the previous year. A special survey of the poorest households shows that 70 per *cent of their money comes* from social security benefits.

One in three of the poorest group is unemployed. There are almost as many pensioners caught in this poverty trap, although their average income today is worth 35 per cent more in real terms than it was in 1981. Sixteen per cent of the poorest are single parents, and only 4 per cent have full-time jobs.

Despite their low income, the poorest group buys nearly as many consumer durables as wealthier sections of the community. More than 90 per cent own a television and a fridge freezer, 80 per cent have a washing machine and video, 75 per cent have a telephone and central heating, more than 40 per cent run a car, and 10 per cent have a home computer.

Real wealth, however, continues to reside with the very few. In 1981, the wealthiest 1 per cent of the population owned 18 per cent of the nation's marketable wealth and the figure remained unaltered throughout the following decade. All but 8 per cent of the nation's wealth continues to be owned by the richest half of the population.

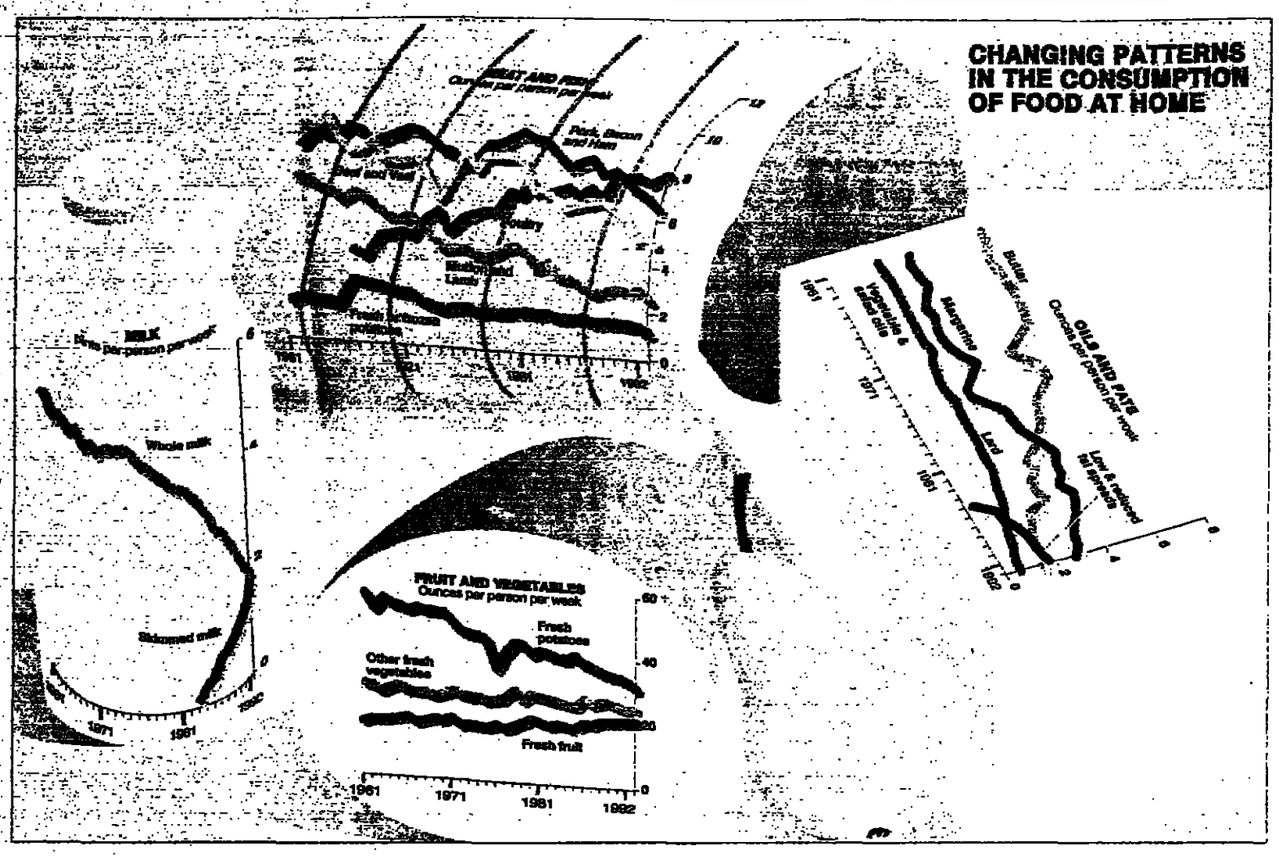
The survey does not take into account the imminent tax increases and shows that the Government will take an average of 13 per cent of earnings in the current year. The nation's 25 million taxpayers have a tax liability of £65 billion, between them, an average of £2,600 each.

The economic boom of the mid-1980s meant that government borrowing, which was more than 9 per cent of income in 1981, turned into a debt repayment between 1987 and 1990. By 1992, however, the level of borrowing had risen to 12 per cent of all government income.

When it comes to earning money, the latest figures, for 1991, show that Britain continues to be near the bottom of the table of the developed world, behind all but four members of the EC.

☐ *Social Trends: 1994 Edition* (Stationery Office; £27)

Leading article, page 17



Diet-conscious diners add years to life expectancy

By Ian Murray

BETTER diets, medical care and social habits are helping to make Britain a healthier place to live. A baby boy born today can expect to live until he is 74 and a girl should reach 79; 50 years ago, the figures were 62 and 67 years.

The number of cot deaths was halved between 1991 and 1992, with the rate down to 0.7 per thousand live births. Infant mortality generally has fallen to 6.6 per thousand, a quarter below the level of five years ago.

Changes in diet have been a key factor in improving adult health. Britain now eats nearly twice as much margarine as butter, red meat consumption has fallen from 9oz to 5oz a week since 1961 and half as many potatoes are eaten as 30 years ago.

During the past two decades, cigarette smoking among men has fallen from 52 per cent to 31 per cent and from 41 per cent to 29 per cent among women.

Nearly a quarter of all males drink more than the recommended 21 units a week, while a tenth of women exceed the safe 15-unit limit.

The number of Aids cases reported to June last year was 7,140 men and 559 women, from which a total of 4,794 have died. Of the total number of cases 5,899 were attributed to sexual intercourse between men.

In-patient and out-patient numbers in hospitals have risen in the past decade even though the number of available beds has fallen from 351,000 to 242,000. In 1981, 5.76 million patients were treated in hospital and there were 21 million out-patients.

In 1991, there were 7.7 million in-patients and 24.4 million out-patients. With each hospital bed being used twice as often as ten years ago, the waiting time for treatment has been reduced.

During the five years to March last year, the number of people waiting more than a year for treatment had fallen from 208,000 to 53,000, although the number waiting under a year has increased by a third.

Fare rise drives more into cars

By A Staff Reporter

MOTORISTS are becoming more pollution conscious as the increasing cost of public transport drives more people to buy their own cars. Between 1981 and 1993, rail, bus and coach fares increased by over 130 per cent while motoring costs rose by just over 80 per cent.

The number of cars owned per thousand people has grown from 277 to 361 in the past decade. There are now 22.3 million cars or light vans on the road compared with 6.2 million 30 years ago.

Numbers using the buses have continued to fall: between 1985-86 and 1992-93, the annual distance operated by local buses increased by 20 per cent while the number of passenger journeys decreased by the same proportion.

For freight transport the switch from rail to road has been equally rapid: only seven tonnes out of every hundred now go by rail compared with 40 tonnes per hundred 40 years ago.

The proportion of unleaded petrol sold has risen from 5 per cent to nearly 50 per cent *in five years. Emissions of* carbon monoxide from car exhausts have grown by 50 per cent over the past 20 years, although black smoke and sulphur dioxide emissions from vehicles have fallen by 50 per cent over the same period.

Coal was the most important fuel for electricity generation in 1991, but coal-fired power stations produced nearly 75 per cent of all the sulphur dioxide emissions. Production of electricity by nuclear and renewable sources has doubled since 1975.

About 400 million tonnes of waste are produced each year in Britain, including 80 million tonnes from agriculture, 110 million from mining and quarrying and 15 million from households. It is estimated that about 50 per cent of the latter could be recycled compared with 5 per cent now.

The area of forest and woodland cover in Britain has increased by nearly 70 per cent since 1947, and in recent years there has been a switch from planting conifers to establishing new broadleaf woods. Hedgerows were cut by 23 per cent between 1984 and 1990. About 12,500 miles of walls were taken down over the *same period, while nearly* 50,000 miles of boundary fences were put up.

REGIONAL TRENDS

- More than two in five households in Scotland and the North have no car, compared with one in five in the South East outside Greater London.
- In mainland Britain the highest unemployment rate is in the West Midlands: 11.6 per cent in 1993. Five years earlier, its unemployment level was lower than in six other regions.
- The wealthiest area is still Greater London, where the average gross domestic product is 23 points above the national average. After Northern Ireland, the poorest region is Wales.
- Patients on Merseyside have the shortest wait for hospital treatment: under 1 per cent wait more than a year. The North West Thames region has the longest waiting list outside Northern Ireland and Wales: nearly 10 per cent have waited for more than a year.
- In 1992-93, average house prices rose in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland and fell in England, most heavily in the South West and West Midlands.
- The best crime clear-up rate, 53 per cent, is in Dyfed-Powys. In the London Metropolitan area, 16 per cent of offences are solved.
- Safest roads are in the North with 0.75 fatal or serious accidents every 62,500 vehicle miles. The most *dangerous outside London* are Scotland's at 1.08.

Women have less time for leisure

By A Staff Reporter

WORKING women live longer than men even though they have less leisure time. The figures show that the average British male spends 47 hours a week at work, 49 hours asleep and 26 hours doing essential chores. That leaves him 46 hours for doing as he pleases.

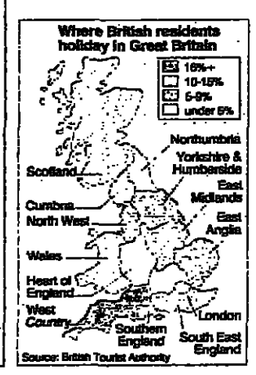
The average female has a 42 hour working week, spends 49 hours sleeping and 45 hours on housework, looking after the children, shopping and cooking, leaving 32 hours for other things. Even housewives without a formal job have only an hour more free time each day than a working man. Most people spend their free time watching television. The average household sits in front of the screen for 27 hours each week. Peak viewing is between 7.30pm and 8pm, when the soaps are showing. Twenty-five per cent of the nation tunes in to the radio between 8am and 8.30am.

Walking is the most popular leisure exercise, with 65 per cent of the population going *for a stroll a few times a year.* Swimming is second (42 per cent) followed by snooker (22 per cent), keep fit (19 per cent) and cycling (17 per cent).

Nine per cent of adults and 33 per cent of teenagers play football. Of the big sporting events, Wimbledon fortnight attracts the largest crowds with 400,000 spectators.

The average household spends 16 per cent of disposable income on leisure, almost 25 per cent of which goes on a holiday.

Active membership of mainstream churches continues to fall with 6.7 million attending. Sects such as the Mormons and Jehovah's Witness *are growing steadily,* although their combined membership is under 500,000.



SNAPSHOTS OF BRITAIN

- The pound in your pocket in 1951 was worth 7p in 1992.
- The number of pensioners will exceed 16 million by 2031, more than double the number in 1961.
- Spending on tobacco fell by a third in real terms between 1971 and 1992.
- Men in the North and North West drink twice as much as men in East Anglia.
- Spending on post and telephones trebled between 1971 and 1992.
- Under-fives at school trebled from 1965 to 1992.
- Three fifths of students in higher education are *female, compared with two* fifths in 1970.
- There were double the number of students in higher education in 1992 as in 1971.
- The proportion of school leavers without graded GCSEs or equivalent more than halved between 1975 and 1991.
- *Spending per pupil in* secondary education rose by two fifths in real terms between 1981 and 1992.
- Three quarters of men over 16 were working in 1991, the highest rate in the European Community.
- Half a million working days were lost through strikes in 1992, the lowest figure since records began more than 100 years ago.
- Just under half of those leaving youth training in 1992 were in full-time work six months later. A third were unemployed.
- A third of working-age women were unemployed in 1993, more than twice the proportion for men.
- Only 38 per cent of civilian workers belong to a trade union, compared with 53 per cent in 1978.
- In 1992, an average 4.8 per cent of income was saved, the highest proportion since records began.
- Recorded offences rose from 3 million in 1981 to 5.8 million in 1992. The number of police increased from *132,700 to 142,100 in the* same period.
- The crime clear-up rate declined from 40 per cent in 1980 to 26 per cent in 1992. Violent and sexual offenders are three times more likely to be caught than burglars.
- The value of unrecovered stolen property in 1992 was £2.7 billion.
- Apart from Luxembourg, Britain has the highest number of prisoners per head of population in the EC, with 92 out of every 100,000 people serving a sentence. But men over 21 are seven times more likely to receive a caution than to be jailed.
- Half as many houses were completed in 1992 as in 1967. Twice as many homes are owner-occupied as in 1961.
- About 350,000 mortgage loans were in arrears by more than six months at the end of June 1993.
- The number of bottle banks trebled to 7,000 between 1984 and 1991.
- Sales of CDs overtook sales of cassettes in 1992.
- A quarter of families took two or more holidays in 1992, three times the proportion 25 years earlier.
- Almost 57 million international passengers used London's airports in 1992 compared with 18 million in 1971.
- The breeding population *of the tree sparrow is 15 per* cent of the 1971 figure.

Single parents oust the nuclear family

By A Staff Reporter

THE nuclear family is becoming the exception rather than the rule. One in three children born today is illegitimate and half of those will grow up in a one-parent household.

The survey shows that only four in ten families are made up of a married couple with children, that there are nearly 50,000 fewer marriages a year than in 1961 and that a third of the 350,000 couples who marry have been divorced.

Divorce is becoming commoner at an early stage in marriage. While the seven-year itch remains the most dangerous period for a partnership, almost one in ten marriages breaks up within two years, compared with one in a hundred 30 years ago.

The divorce rate among couples who have been cohabiting before marriage is half as high again as among couples who have not. But cohabitation has become widely accepted, especially in the 25-35 age group, where about one in three couples live together without getting married. The divorce rate in this age group is the highest, with almost one in three couples breaking up, compared with fewer than one in 20 in 1961.

A third of all couples are opting not to have children and women are tending to have their first baby at about 27, later than before. But the number of births still rose from 835,500 in 1971 to 853,700 in 1991. The average birthrate of 1.8 children per woman is higher than anywhere else in the European Community apart from Ireland.

Brute facts outweigh each sobering twist and turn

In this world nothing can be said to be certain, except death and taxes, Benjamin Franklin said. According to Social Trends, there is less of both.

You would have to be Savanorola not to take heart at these profuse signs of social and economic progress. More money, more goods, longer, safer lives: the brute facts surely outweigh all the catches, which have to do with how things are distributed between groups and regions.

Some people, by definition, are below the mean and the median, but should that prevent celebration of the fact that the mid-point on so many of Social Trends' series is moving up?

Life expectancy grows steadily decade by decade. With Aids attracting so much attention, we may have failed to note that (for men) there is much less sexually transmitted disease about. Fewer people die as a result of accidents, at home and on the roads.

Meanwhile, attainment has risen. More people at all age levels have more qualifications. And the rest of the good news, which Martyn Lewis would love to read: real disposable income per head is now at its highest level ever, nearly four-fifths above what it was in 1971. *Pensioners' income in 1991* was 35 per cent higher than ten years' previously. Until 1991, at least the overall tax burden had changed only slightly since 1979, and that in the downwards direction.

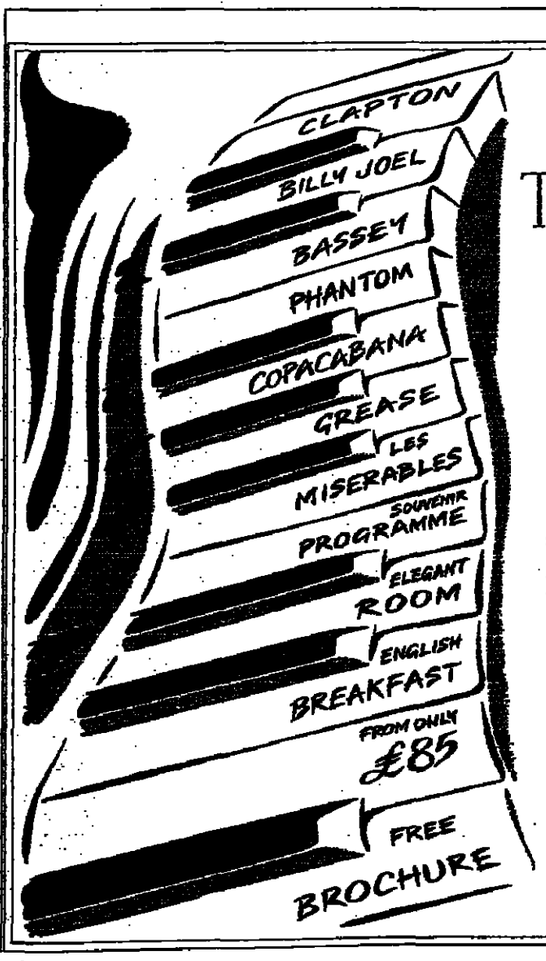
Each year, Social Trends gives us that indispensable table showing how long it takes to work to pay for, say, a pound of apples — four minutes for a single female parent with child in 1993 compared with four times as long in 1971. A married man has seen the time taken to earn enough to pay for a car licence cut in half during the same period. Progress?

J. K. Galbraith, is in Britain this week, saying progress is a dirty word as long as there is an underclass mired in urban discontent. Middling people, however improved their lives, do like to scourge themselves, figuratively speaking. So Social Trends prompts this question: if *many elements in our* social life are getting better, why is the meliorist strand in public and political opinion so absent?

There is an explanation to do with the way we, journalists, report the world. However, our readers and listeners do like to grumble, and to focus on short-run discontents (a recession, despite a longer-run trend of income growth, NHS waiting lists at a time when the nation is getting healthier). You get a better class of complaint by ignoring the bigger picture.

But Social Trends offer no sure foundation for a good news party were ministers tempted to found one. How much of these trends in social and economic life are the result of the exercise of political will by them or their bureaucratic servants? Governments can increase *tobacco taxes and promote* road safety campaigns. But deep within society and economy there are geological movements in sensibility and popular aspiration which governments can do little to dam or divert.

David Walker



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Hosokawa offers opponents deal to salvage reform

FROM ROBERT STERN IN TOKYO

■ The Japanese Prime Minister still hopes to save his clean-up package. Observers are pessimistic. "It is a matter of whether he chooses a slow or a quick death," one says

IN A desperate attempt to save his government and the future of political reform, Morihiro Hosokawa, the Japanese Prime Minister, offered a compromise package last night to his Liberal Democratic Party opponents.

Mr Hosokawa has only until the weekend to draft the controversial legislation necessary and have it approved by parliament, a seemingly impossible task in the face of a recalcitrant LDP that knows successful reform could spell its demise in its present form.

The Prime Minister remains popular with the public, but his chances of surviving the week with his position and coalition intact appear slim. He has vowed to pass into law some version of his four-Bill package designed to clean up Japan's corrupt political system by January 29, when the parliamentary session ends. With time running out, Mr Hosokawa is also having to pick his way through a political landscape that is revealing new fault lines every day. Deep rifts are appearing in his own fragile seven-party coalition and the Liberal Democrats.

"Sooner or later he will go," Takashi Inoguchi, professor of political science at Tokyo University, says. "It is a matter of whether he chooses a slow or a quick death."

The phlegmatic and patrician Mr Hosokawa has retained his statesmanlike calm throughout the turmoil, but his future as Prime Minister appears gloomy.

Mr Hosokawa's crisis began last Friday when the defection of 19 members of his coalition led to the Upper House voting down the reform package he has championed. That rejection left him with three options. First, he could return the Bills in their original form to the Lower House and try to get them passed by a two-thirds majority. Such a majority would require 70 opposition members to break ranks. That was considered impossible, but the threat that enough opposition members would rebel to embarrass the LDP provided Mr Hosokawa with the leverage he needed to pursue his second option, which Liberal Democrat leaders agreed to yesterday.

This involves setting up a joint House committee to revise the Bills. If the revisions are approved by simple majorities in both Houses before Saturday, Mr Hosokawa squeaks through. Nobody, however, is optimistic about the prospects.

If Mr Hosokawa's manoeuvrings fail, he has promised to "take responsibility", which in Japan usually means



Hosokawa: slim chance of saving government

resignation. It is not clear when he would go, nor whether that would mean quitting as Prime Minister and dissolving his government, or invoking his third option, the dissolution of parliament and calling a general election.

Such a move would not be welcomed by Japan's bureaucracy and business community, which want urgent economic issues resolved first. In his zeal to pass his political reform package, Mr Hosokawa has postponed dealing with urgent measures meant to pull Japan out of its lingering recession. The delay that Friday's vote brought in dealing with pending budget, tax reform, and economic-stimulus legislation sent Tokyo's stock exchange diving by 5 per cent on Monday. President Clinton is also expecting "tangible results" on contentious trade talks at his meeting with Mr Hosokawa in Washington on February 11.

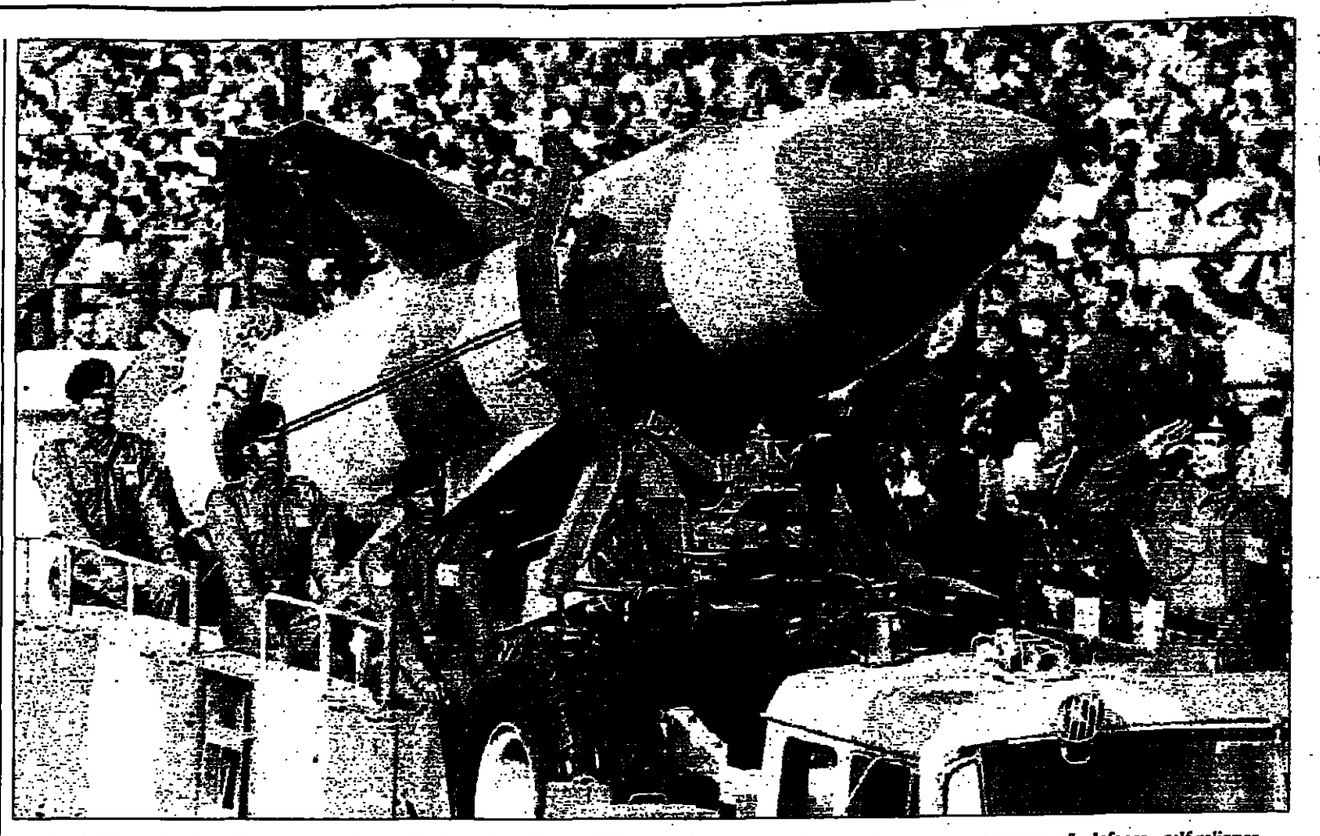
Mr Hosokawa's reform Bills, designed to change Japan's electoral system radically and wipe out money politics, seem doomed. The political realignments that their debate is provoking may, however, bring more significant change. "The more chaos the political reform debate brings," Professor Inoguchi says, "the more rapid and more profound the political restructuring becomes."

In Washington on Tuesday, America and Japan ended two days of trade talks without agreement and facing "substantial stumbling blocks" in their race to rewrite the rules of trans-Pacific commerce, American officials said. The two sides are scrambling to come up with a new economic agenda before the meeting on February 11.

President Clinton and Mr Hosokawa want to announce a new start, symbolised by a string of accords to deliver cheaper goods to Japanese consumers and create new jobs in America. "They are both determined to make the utmost effort to reach an agreement by the summit," a Japanese official said.

The matters at issue include the car trade, government procurement and insurance. The two sides are also at loggerheads over a US demand that indicators should be used to measure progress in opening Japan's market, a stance that Tokyo says amounts to managed trade.

Leading article, page 17



The Indian Prithvi surface-to-surface guided missile, on general view for the first time, was the main exhibit during the annual Republic Day parade in Delhi yesterday. Its unveiling, at the traditional occasion for a display of military might, effectively sends a defiant message to Pakistan, said to have deployed Chinese M11 missiles (Christopher Thomas writes from Delhi). The Prithvi, described by Indian military analysts as highly accurate, has a range of 120 miles and was developed at India's defence research laboratory in Hyderabad. It is another example of the country's technological prowess, giving it a measure of defence self-reliance. This is seen as vital after the collapse of the Soviet Union, traditionally India's main defence supplier. The missile, with a one-ton warhead, was deployed last year in Punjab.

Slighted Bollywood dents Dimple career

FROM REUTER IN DELHI

INDIAN film-makers have decided to blacklist one of the country's most glamorous film stars after she refused to play an elderly mother, it was reported yesterday.

The Hindustan Times said that Dimple Kapadia, one of Hindi cinema's top heroines, had been blacklisted by film producers after she pulled out of *Kartavya* (Duty). "We have circulated a ban order to our 4,000 member-producers," the paper quoted K. D. Shourie, secretary of the Film-Makers' Combine (FMC), as saying.

The paper said that Kapadia, 38, who won India's best actress award last year for playing an elderly village woman, was penalised when she refused to act as the mother of Juhi Chawla, an actress ten years younger.

According to Mr Shourie, Kapadia had earlier agreed to play the mother when the daughter's role was to be played by Divya Bharati, another popular star. Chawla, currently Hindi cinema's highest-paid actress, with an estimated fee of three million rupees (£67,000) per film, won the role when Bharati was killed last May in an accident.



Kapadia: refused to play an elderly woman

US orders missiles to Korea as nuclear impasse worsens

FROM WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU IN WASHINGTON

THE Clinton Administration has approved the deployment of Patriot anti-missile missiles in South Korea, in a move that is bound to raise the stakes in the year-old confrontation with North Korea over inspections of nuclear installations.

The decision signals America's determination to end the procrastination by Pyongyang in negotiations with the International Atomic Energy Authority (IAEA) over the terms of inspections. The US Administration is also considering seeking economic sanctions by the United Nations if the negotiations are not concluded before next month's deadline.

The request for the Patriot missiles came from General Gary Luck, the American Commander-in-Chief in South Korea, who is seeking the advanced defence system to shield South Korean and American troops against a possible attack from the North.

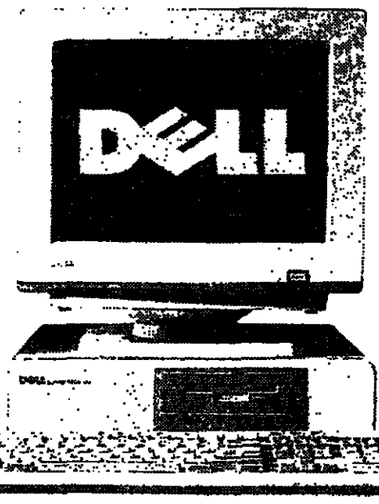
The announcement about the Patriot deployment was made yesterday by Frank Wisner, Under-Secretary of Defence. He said: "General Luck has come back and asked for it now and we will proceed with the deployment." But he added that no decision has yet been made about the delivery schedule. He said the decision was a defensive move, rather than a threat against North Korea.

In the short passage on foreign policy in his State of the Union address, President Clinton reiterated his desire to "achieve a Korean peninsula free of nuclear weapons", a goal that looks increasingly doubtful after the latest inconclusive negotiations between the IAEA and Pyongyang. This latest impasse came only a month after America and North Korea reached agreement in principle for seven nuclear facilities to be inspected by international monitors, but the IAEA said later that the North had rejected its inspection procedures.

Pyongyang's continued opposition to a thorough international inspection has heightened fears that the country is in the process of developing nuclear weapons — if it has not developed one or two already.

The negotiation process has a deadline of February 22, when Hans Blix, director-general of the IAEA, is due to report to governors on the state of talks with North Korea.

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Clinton delights America with Reagan-style vision

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

■ The President is basking in public acclaim after a speech to Congress, much of which might have been delivered by the "great communicator"

PRESIDENT Clinton basked in acclaim yesterday after his tough State of the Union address, large chunks of which could have been delivered by Ronald Reagan.

Two snap polls showed 75 per cent and 84 per cent approval of the speech on Tuesday night in which Mr Clinton returned forcefully to the conservative "New Democrat" themes that won him the 1992 election. He strove to dispel the idea that his giant health care reform plan amounted to socialised medicine, demanded strong new measures against violent crime, and promised radical reform of the welfare system.

He refused to countenance further defence cuts, promised to slash the federal bureaucracy to its lowest level in 30 years and insisted on the themes of family, community and greater personal responsibility. The President also promised next month "one of the toughest budgets ever sent to Congress", one that would mean three consecutive years of declining deficits.

The 63-minute speech left Mr Clinton hoarse and was interrupted 66 times for applause, but Republicans mostly sat glumly on their hands as the President stole their issues. At one point Mr Clinton even introduced a uniformed New York policeman sitting in the gallery, a trick that bore all the hallmarks of David Gergen, his senior adviser who had previously worked for Mr Reagan.

"It was a terrific speech, much of which I was glad to have helped the White House provide the language for," Newt Gingrich, the Republicans' conservative House whip, observed sardonically. Robert Dole, the Senate minority leader, welcomed Mr Clinton's tough language but doubted he would act on it.

Mr Clinton displayed the confidence of a President whose approval ratings are climbing. He took credit for economic recovery, though it began under President Bush. He effectively declared his readiness to embark on the second phase of his presidency — a great programme of social "renewal" — and appealed over the heads of Congress for popular support. In contrast, foreign affairs warranted just ten minutes, Mr Clinton warning Russia against military interference in neighbouring states but barely mentioning Bosnia, Haiti and Somalia.

Easily the President's biggest challenge this year is health reform, with support dwindling for his hugely ambitious plan and senior congressmen questioning whether there is a crisis at all. He angrily challenged them to tell that to the 58 million Americans who at some time each year lacked cover.

He dropped all references to universal coverage, with its connotations of state control, declaring instead that his plan would provide "guaranteed private insurance" of the sort first proposed by Richard Nixon 20 years ago. In a rare moment of drama, he flourished his pen and vowed to veto any legislation that did not provide such insurance. He portrayed the coming battle as one against powerful vested interests and told Congress: "Now is the time to stand with the people who sent us here."

Mr Dole, delivering the Republicans' formal response, concentrated almost all his fire on his proposed reforms, calling them a "massive overdose of government control" that would "put a mountain of bureaucrats between you and your doctor".

With violent crime suddenly the public's No. 1 concern, Mr Clinton demanded more prisons, more police officers, more "boot camps", mandatory life sentences for anyone convicted of three violent crimes, and a ban on assault weapons.

He appealed for all Americans to assume a new responsibility to reverse the "stunning breakdown of community, family and work" that had created "a vast vacuum which has been filled by violence and drugs and gangs".

Reform of the welfare system is a guaranteed votewinner, and Mr Clinton promised legislation this spring to make welfare "a second chance, not a way of life" by forcing recipients back to work after two years.

Peter Brookes, Page 16



Hillary Clinton waiting in the gallery before her husband delivered his speech to Congress



The President declaring in his address that his pen would veto legislation which did not guarantee every American health insurance that could never be taken away

Street mayhem pushes New York to despair

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK

ON THE day President Clinton promised to crack down on crime in his State of the Union address, New York served up a litany of crime that would be considered shocking elsewhere, but in this and many other American cities is close to routine.

A policeman was killed in Queens as he tried to stop a crack addict in a stolen car; a man was arrested who admitted stabbing four people because they bumped into him on the street without apologising; another man tied up traffic for hours when he drove into the Holland Tunnel with his granddaughter and told police he had a hand grenade. These were the exotic crimes that warranted coverage by New York's press; thousands more, less newsworthy incidents of mugging, burglary and gang-related violence, were swept away into police files, to say nothing of the many others unreported.

Recent surveys show that Americans are more concerned about rising crime than any other issue. A year ago, according to a Gallup poll released this week, 9 per cent of people regarded crime as their main anxiety. The figure is now 37 per cent, the highest rate since Gallup began polling in the 1930s.

According to the FBI, crime figures are relatively stable and may even have declined slightly, but the public perception is of a tidal wave of crime. There is also an increasing tendency to view crime as an inevitable part of urban life.

In a recent essay, Patrick Moynihan, New York's scholarly Democrat Senator, argued that the daily exposure to tales of horror had left Americans, and New Yorkers in particular, with a skewed sense of what to expect from city life. Once we voiced outrage at the level of crime; now we are merely frightened and pathetically defensive.

My neighbour and landlady was mugged last month. As she opened her front door to go to work, a man pushed her back inside, locked her in her own bathroom and proceeded to ransack the house. I asked her if we should get new locks, demand better street lighting. She shrugged. "If they want to rob you, you can't stop them."

This week Rudolph Giuliani, New York's mayor, launched the "Quality-of-life Patrol", a team of plainclothes police to patrol subways and force outside the beggars and homeless held responsible for much subway crime. This has been greeted with mockery.

The old self-preservation code, to know the rough neighbourhoods and avoid them, is no longer sufficient, for the new level of panic reflects the random nature of violent crime, with teenagers now carrying guns as they once sported baseball caps.

Gary, Indiana, once a byword for Midwestern homeliness, had the highest murder rate in the nation. In North Carolina, last Sunday, Wendy Fields, 9, was riding her horse when she was shot dead from a passing car.

There are legislative ways to calm the swelling fear, as President Clinton outlined. But there is a more desperate method: an increasing number of ordinary Americans are buying guns.



Giuliani: has launched subway police patrols

£10m deal fails to take legal heat off Jackson

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

MICHAEL Jackson is thought to be between $15 million (£10 million) and $24 million (£16 million) poorer as a result of his out-of-court settlement with Jordan Chandler, his alleged child abuse victim. He has escaped the humiliation of a nationally televised civil trial, but is not yet out of the woods.

A criminal trial may still follow, and if it does, the 14-year-old would be free to testify. Gil Garcetti, the Los Angeles district attorney, said before the announcement of the settlement on Tuesday: "The criminal investigation of singer Michael Jackson is ongoing and will not be affected by the announcement of the civil case settlement."

Larry Feldman, the boy's lawyer, acknowledged that a criminal trial could take place but he dropped heavy hints that his client, whose newfound wealth is to be put in a trust fund, may want to forget the whole saga. Under California law, Jordan, as the alleged victim of child sex abuse, cannot be forced to testify in court.

"With an unco-operative victim, the prosecution would be unable to secure a criminal conviction," Peter Arenella, a Los Angeles law professor, said yesterday.

The district attorney has dropped extortion charges brought by Jackson's lawyers against the boy's father. This step may be a precursor to state authorities dropping the case altogether but that would still leave Santa Barbara prosecutors, who took part in the strip-searching of Jackson, free to bring criminal charges.

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British commander rejects 'siege mentality' in Sarajevo walkabout

UN general's stroll raises city morale

FROM JOEL BRAND IN SARAJEVO

LIEUTENANT General Sir Michael Rose broke with custom yesterday, walking Sarajevo's treacherous streets to meet Bosnian government and army officials, in a day that was encouraging for residents. But he received a mixed response from their leaders.

"I don't want a siege mentality," General Rose said as he walked down Sarajevo's main street on his way to a meeting with members of Bosnia's presidency and the country's Prime Minister.

Although the city was quiet during his walkabout, it was an assured move by the former SAS commander in his first few days in Sarajevo after assuming command of United Nations forces in Bosnia on Monday. The two previous UN commanders always travelled the city in an armoured convoy.

No part of the city is safe from Serb artillery fire from the surrounding hills, and many streets and parks are covered by snipers. Hundreds of Sarajevans have been killed and wounded by shells and snipers along the half-mile route General Rose walked.

The UN commander was accompanied by bodyguards and was followed by an armoured Range Rover. He appeared to be wearing a flak jacket under his coat.

Men, women and children walk the city's streets every day, braving snipers and shells, because they have no other means of transport. Petrol costs more than £11 a litre.

The general bade good morning to residents walking along the city's main, ice-covered street. He spoke with one white-haired man who took his hat off to the new UN commander.

"I'm very glad to see you," the Sarajevan said, bundled up in a woollen overcoat. "This situation is very bad for us, but it will get better."

"We hope," General Rose responded cheerfully. Sarajevans on the street who saw the general appeared generally encouraged by his show of solidarity with the population.

Both Britain and France are being seen with increasing disfavour in Sarajevo. Both countries are perceived as having appeased Serbian expansionism. However, because the UN in Sarajevo has been dominated by French troops and officers, many residents are hopeful that the new British commander will bring some changes for the better.



A resident of Sarajevo greeting Lieutenant General Sir Michael Rose as he walks along an icy street in the besieged Bosnian capital

At the government building, Haris Silajdzic, the Bosnian Prime Minister, and Ejup Ganic, a presidency member, were optimistic going into their meetings with the general. "We are very impressed with General Rose's biography and we hope it will reflect in his work here," Dr Ganic said. The general commanded SAS operations during the Falklands War. "That gives us some hope that he is not a man to be fooled around with," Dr Ganic added.

Mr Silajdzic said: "The problem is that ... we are just another side in the conflict." In the eyes of the West and the UN Protection Force "the killer and the victim are the same," he said.

"Priority one is to free the humanitarian corridors into our towns and villages." Mr Silajdzic said before the meeting. "If we don't, we are going to have a humanitarian catastrophe in Bosnia very soon." He added that "whoever blocks humanitarian convoys should be bombed".

But Mr Silajdzic was not as pleased after his encounter with General Rose. The Bosnian Prime Minister appeared disappointed with the discussion. He said that the UN mission "hasn't changed, unfortunately".

In a further criticism of UN action in the country, a spokesman for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees said yesterday that Bosnian civilians in government-held areas, most in dire need of food and medicine, are receiving the smallest quantities of UN relief aid, while those least in need get the most.

Urged to act by dramatic portrayals of life under siege in government-held enclaves such as Sarajevo, Mostar and Gorazde, the international community have shipped hundreds of thousands of tons of aid to Bosnia. Most of that aid, however, never reaches the people in war-torn government-held areas for whom it is intended. Instead, it goes to residents in generally peaceful rebel-controlled regions. The people least in need appear to get the most aid.

Civilians in areas under control of the mostly Muslim Bosnian army are receiving less than one-third as much UN relief aid as their counterparts in rebel Croat-held areas, and approximately one-half of the ration for people in Serb areas, despite an overwhelmingly greater need.

Fears for missing Iranian cleric rise

Nicosia: Middle East Watch, an American human rights group, has called on Iran to guarantee the wellbeing of an outspoken Christian leader who disappeared more than a week ago (Michael Theodoulou writes).

The group said it feared Bishop Haik Hovsepian Mehr, leader of the Evangelical Council of Pastors in Iran, was being held by Tehran security agents. It said Bishop Hovsepian went missing three days after the Rev Mehdi Debadj, sentenced to death for apostasy, was released last week. The bishop had recently claimed that Iranian authorities had closed several churches and that converts in some cities had been tortured.

Such claims of persecution against Christians in Iran are relatively new. Traditionally, it has been Iran's Bahai community that suffered most; more than 200 were killed and several hundred jailed between 1979 and 1988.

UK boost for scholarships

London: Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, relaunched Government scholarships available to overseas students as "The British Chevening scholarships", named after his official residence. This year the Foreign Office will spend £23 million on grants for 3,400 scholars from 140 countries to study at British universities.

He also said that the Government was hoping to expand overseas scholarships, jointly funded since their launch in 1986 by the Foreign Office, universities and business, by bringing in money from local sponsors.

Maverick US politician freed

New York: The right-wing extremist Lyndon LaRouche, one of the most determined if peculiar presidential candidates in American history, was released from prison in Minnesota after serving five years of a 15-year sentence for fraud and conspiracy.

His apocalyptic views and political ambitions undimmed by his years behind bars, he announced that he planned to run for President again in 1996, as he has done in every poll since 1976.

Rescue race

Calcutta: Reinforcements have been sent to help rescue workers struggling to reach 45 miners trapped underground in a blazing coalmine. The miners have been entombed since Tuesday. *(AFP)*

Britons safe

The Hague: Thirty-two Britons were safely evacuated after fire broke out in a hotel bar in the Dutch coastal resort of Scheveningen. The fire was thought to have been started by burglars. *(Reuter)*

Cities disrupted

Madrid: Six blasts and a number of bomb warnings disrupted Madrid and the Spanish city of Pamplona on the eve of a 24-hour strike against government economic policy. Three people were hurt. *(Reuter)*

Algeria impasse

Algiers: A two-day conference intended to find a presidential candidate for Algeria ended in failure when the main candidate, Abdelaziz Bouteflika, a former Foreign Minister, declined the post. *(AP)*

Jail riot ends

Belo Horizonte: Brazilian police retook a prison here after putting down an uprising by inmates who took the warden, chaplain and 14 others hostage. Police said four people had died. *(AFP)*

Toxic farms

Peking: More than 10,000 Chinese farm workers died last year from poisoning by substandard homemade pesticides, according to the official *China Daily* quoting government sources. *(Reuter)*

Fyodorov exits in attack on 'illiterate ideology'

FROM ANNE MCELVOY IN MOSCOW

■ As a key reformer bows out, Russian prosecutors are investigating allegations against Vladimir Zhirinovsky, the neo-Fascist leader, of war-mongering

BORIS Fyodorov, the Russian Finance Minister, admitted defeat yesterday in his ten-day battle to remain in the new Cabinet, resigning with a warning that an economic coup was under way. He said that the country was heading for "a social explosion" under a government that, he claimed, was attached to "lifeless and illiterate ideology".

The loss of Mr Fyodorov from a now overwhelmingly conservative administration, and the passion with which he denounced it, will fuel fears of an about-turn in reform policies and strengthen doubts about President Yeltsin's commitment to maintaining the pace and quality of the reforms that he and his radical young ministers launched after the demise of the Soviet Union.

Mr Fyodorov's departure came as public prosecutors said that they would open criminal proceedings against Vladimir Zhirinovsky, the neo-Fascist leader, on suspicion of war-mongering. The move comes after a spate of submissions from journalists, politicians and peace groups accusing Mr Zhirinovsky, who heads the Liberal Democratic Party, of spreading war propaganda, punishable by up to eight years in jail. The public prosecutor's office is investigating allegations that Mr Zhirinovsky calls for war against Turkey, Iran and Afghanistan in his autobiography, *Last Surge to the South*.

It is far from certain whether a court case will be brought against Mr Zhirinovsky since, as an MP, he enjoys freedom from prosecution. Moreover, his democrat enemies risk adding martyrdom to his already powerful appeal among the people as he launches his campaign for the Russian presidency.

At a press conference yesterday, Mr Zhriniovsky, accompanied by Gerhard Frey, the leader of the neo-Fascist German People's Union, denied the accusations of war-mongering and threatened his opponents with exile in Siberia. "I can promise you, you will not be sleeping comfortably soon," he said.

Sergei Dubinin, Mr Fyodorov's first deputy at the Finance Ministry, appeared last night to have been chosen to succeed him in an acting capacity. The choice, if confirmed as a permanant appointment, will provide some comfort to supporters of fast-track reforms, since the favourite for the job had been Viktor Shcherbakov, a more conservative economist. Mr Fyodorov said that he favoured Mr Dubinin to replace him, adding: "He will pursue the same policies [of fiscal restraint] ... as myself."

Regarded as the last senior reformer left in the Cabinet, after the departure of Yegor Gaidar, the Economics Minister, earlier this month, Mr Fyodorov said yesterday that he was not prepared to work with his ideological enemies whom he claimed were open foes of reform. He fought a doughty battle against Viktor Chernomyrdin, the Prime Minister, to maintain influence in the government, telling Mr Yeltsin that he would not serve under Viktor Gerashchenko, the high-spending bank chairman, and Aleksandr Zaveryukha, the conservative agriculture leader, who wants to triple the amount of subsidies to state agriculture in the next five years. The Russian leader was not able to reconcile Mr Fyodorov's demands with those of his Prime Minister and chose to back Mr Chernomyrdin, despite the alarm he knows he has caused in the West over his failure to defend his original reform team.

Mr Fyodorov appealed last night to Mr Yeltsin to halt the backward slide which he said the new government represented and said that the attachment of the many representatives of the industrialist lobby in its ranks to boosting productivity by bailing out ailing enterprises could lead to similar hyperinflation and poverty as in Ukraine.

Mr Chernomyrdin has spoken of the need to depart from the monetarist approach to reforms favoured by Mr Gaidar and Mr Fyodorov and of "an end to market romanticism" in Russian policy. His success in breaking up the radical reformist core of the government, despite Mr Yeltsin's pledges in the aftermath of the December elections to defend it, indicate that he has firm control over personnel decisions. It remains to be seen whether he will exert equal sway over key policy matters, in which case Mr Yeltsin's role could be reduced to that of democratic figurehead while the industrialists' lobby runs the country.



Berlusconi: hoping to thwart victory by left

Berlusconi move adds to poll confusion

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

SILVIO Berlusconi, the Italian press baron, announced last night that he would be going into politics in an attempt to prevent a left-wing victory in the general election in March.

Signor Berlusconi's televised message, in which he said he would be turning his Forza Italia pressure group into a political party, is likely to intensify the pace of Italian politics and add to the confusion of conservative voters, who face a baffling choice of political groups.

Signor Berlusconi, 57, said he would be resigning as chairman of Fininvest, the holding company that controls his television and publishing interests. His opponents say that is not enough to prevent him from enjoying an unfair propaganda advantage as a result of his ownership of three national television channels, which have been busily promoting Forza Italia.

Last week Signor Berlusconi urged Italy's divided and lacklustre moderate politicians to unite in order to foil a looming victory for the former communist Democratic Party of the Left on March 27. However, the moderates, such as Mario Segni, leader of the National Pact, contend that Signor Berlusconi is unsuitable for office and declined to respond to his entreaties.

Hypermarket roof collapse kills 10 in Nice

BY CHARLES BREMNER AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

AT LEAST ten people were killed and 90 injured when the concrete roof of a hypermarket in the French Riviera resort of Nice collapsed yesterday on to shoppers and staff.

Rescue workers pulled scores of people from the rubble, and there were fears that more may still have been trapped inside. At least four survivors were buried under the rubble and some people could have been crushed to death, they said.

Firemen managed to pull out the injured who had been closest to the outside walls, which still stood. Rescuers were using pneumatic drills and jacks to try to reach the centre of the store. Dogs were brought in to help in the search.

Those brought out from the Casino market, between the waterside airport and the Promenade des Anglais, suffered injuries described as light to serious, police said, but nothing was known about the condition of those believed to be still in the building.

The injured were given first aid in tents hastily set up on the seafront boulevard and sent to hospitals. The roof of the Casino store, measuring 120ft by 90ft, collapsed into the sales area, burying shoppers and staff.

Customers who managed to flee said work was being carried out on the premises when the accident happened. They felt vibrations and the windows shattered before the roof came in with a bang.

The big concrete slab covering the roof of the single-story building collapsed in mid-afternoon. The slab supported a garden. The Riviera area has suffered over the past month from record rainfall, but there was no immediate explanation for the collapse. The hypermarket was due to close later this year for extensive repairs. Remodelling work had recently started in the basement of the building, local officials said.

Survivors said the roof had come down over the dairy produce section after a series of heavy vibrations. "We heard something like an explosion and then the roof fell in," said one. The ruined building looked as if it had been hit by an earthquake, witnesses said.

In addition to dozens of ambulances and fire brigades, civil defence vehicles, a detachment of troops and heavy-lifting equipment were rushed to the scene. Traffic was halted on the main highways surrounding the area and police held back people who believed their relatives were still trapped inside.

Nationalist backtracks over separation from Ukraine

FROM ANATOL LIEVEN IN SIMFEROPOL

YURI Meshkov, the Russian nationalist set to win the second round of the Crimean presidential election on Sunday, seems cheerful and confident. But the machine-gun-toting security men who guard him betrayed the tensions gripping the peninsula. Four leading figures have been assassinated here by unknown assailants since the election campaign began.

Mr Meshkov, under Soviet rule a criminal investigator, campaigned on a platform of taking Crimea out of Ukraine and into Russia, through a referendum to be held on March 27. He won 38.5 per cent of the votes in the first round of elections, almost all of them from members of the Russian majority in the autonomous republic.

Since his initial success and in the wake of a strong reaction from the government in Kiev, Mr Meshkov has backtracked on the demand for formal separation from Ukraine, but he is still proposing as a first step that Crimea should drop the disastrous Ukrainian currency, the karbovanets, in favour of the Russian rouble, regarded here as a model of stability.



According to Mr Meshkov, "what is happening here is not Russian nationalism, but that ordinary people are losing everything that they have earned and see their only hope of prosperity in Russia. In aiming to join the rouble zone we are only defending the interests of our people."

Mr Meshkov now says that he does not want to change Ukraine's borders. Rather than joining Russia outright, he wants Crimea to become "a bridge between Russia and Ukraine" and to make "a first step to the restoration of real co-operation between the state of the former Soviet Union". Crimea contains one of the largest numbers of Soviet loyalists in the former union.

Mr Meshkov's opponent in the second round of the presidential election, Nikolai Bagrov, describes Mr Meshkov as an economic illiterate: "Moscow isn't simply going to allow us to use their rouble. To join the rouble zone we have to have the same economic system as Russia."

Bonn war ceremony triggers Russian ire

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

A GERMAN plan to match D-Day celebrations was yesterday fiercely attacked by General Matvey Burlakov, the commander of Russian troops in Germany.

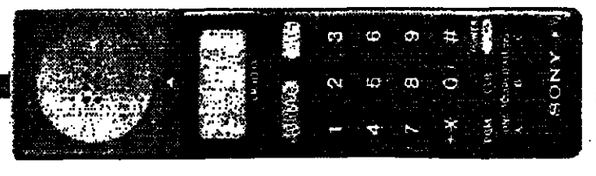
Helmut Kohl, the Chancellor, had initially angled for an invitation to Normandy in June to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the D-Day landing. However, resistance was strong and Herr Kohl quietly withdrew.

Bonn then decided to upgrade the ceremony marking the withdrawal of allied and Russian troops from Berlin. But this triggered arguments over who should or should not be invited. The Russians have been pressing hard to stage a joint parade with the British, French and American troops. Germany, however, wants to differentiate between the Russians — viewed as an aggressive occupying force — and the Western allies who were regarded rather as liberators.

General Burlakov made no secret yesterday of the Russian displeasure. "Of course we wanted a joint celebration with the three Western powers. Unfortunately the Germans have not fulfilled this wish," he said.

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De Klerk joined by Mandela in peace effort for Lesotho

FROM MICHAEL HAMLYN IN GABORONE AND RAY KENNEDY IN JOHANNESBURG

PRESIDENTS Mugabe of Zimbabwe, Masire of Botswana and de Klerk of South Africa met in Gaborone yesterday to help the embattled government of Lesotho. They were joined by Mr de Klerk's likely successor, Nelson Mandela, president of the African National Congress.

They agreed to set up a task force to advise them. But this apparently slight product of their mountainous labour was less important than the circumstances of their meeting.

The gathering was historic in two senses. It was the first time that Mr Mugabe, chairman of the so-called frontline states, had agreed to meet a South African President. It was also the first time that Mr de Klerk had travelled abroad on a government mission with Mr Mandela. It was almost as if the ANC president was already being recognised as co-president of the country.

The two Nobel peace prize-winners were treated equally by the other presidents. They were met at the airport by President Masire. Mr de Klerk was given a warm handshake and thanked for the good omen of fine soaking rain he had brought. Mr Mandela was warmly embraced. He kissed Miss Gaositwe Chiepe, the Botswanan Foreign Minister.

Mr Mugabe dismissed the oddity of having Mr de Klerk accompanied by his chief political rival, saying: "They have been working together all along. We thought they were Siamese twins."

Mr Mandela said: "We feel exactly the same as when we come together in South Africa." But he acknowledged: "It is the first time that the two of us have come out of South Africa to meet our brothers in the region. We feel that solidarity very intensely."

Mr de Klerk added: "I think it is appropriate that South African leaders can rise above their differences."

At the meeting Selometsi Baholo, Lesotho's deputy Prime Minister, reported on the state of tension in the country and repeated his government's request for assistance in calming rival groups of soldiers whose fighting terrorised the capital, Maseru, at the weekend. Five people were killed. The situation is reported to be more tranquil now, both groups having laid down their arms.

Mr Mugabe was telephoned on Sunday by Chief Emeka Anyaoku, the Secretary-General of the Commonwealth, to ask if he could contribute to a multinational peacekeeping force.

The South African government has made clear that it is unwilling to send its troops into the mountain kingdom, which is surrounded by South Africa. But the South Africans could still give support to the frontline states' troops. The task force will meet in Johannesburg today and is expected to travel to Lesotho to study and report on the situation.

Despite the absence of Mr de Klerk and Mr Mandela, campaigning proceeded yesterday for South Africa's first all-race election in April. Pallo Jordan, the ANC's information and publicity director, told a press conference that the ANC might make "people's forums" — vigorous debates between voters and their representatives — a permanent feature of its governing system.

"We have pioneered something which could be institutionalised to encourage interaction between government and people and as a form of accountability," he said.

British firms eager to rebuild Beirut

BY MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

RAFIK Hariri, Prime Minister of Lebanon, leaves today after a four-day visit to Britain which included talks with John Major and other ministers, and yielded substantial interest by British firms in rebuilding Beirut and other Lebanese cities.

"The trip was successful," Mr Hariri told *The Times*. "A new kind of relationship has been established between both countries."

Britain announced during his visit that it is to renew export insurance cover for Lebanon for the first time since 1977. A total of £50 million in export credit guarantees will be available to make it easier for British companies to bid for work.

Lebanon has embarked on a £10-billion reconstruction programme. Contracts for the rebuilding of Beirut port and airport are among those for which British companies may be bidding.

Mr Hariri discussed the Middle East peace process with Mr Major. British officials have expressed concern that Lebanon may be the last country in the region to sign a treaty with Israel because of the difficulties over the Israeli-controlled security zone in the south.

Mr Hariri brushed these aside, saying that Lebanon had agreed to keep in step with Syria. But he said the Syrians were serious in wanting to move forward. "The ball is now in the Israelis' court."



Hariri: forged a new relationship with UK



Yuri Lenov, a former KGB spy, who posed as an Austrian Jewish immigrant in Israel while obtaining information on secret nuclear installations for five years until his arrest in 1973

Revelations on KGB nuclear spy add to Israeli security anguish

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN JERUSALEM

ISRAEL'S security establishment has received another blow to its prestige after fresh revelations about KGB penetration of the country's most closely kept secrets.

In the latest disclosure from a series of recent accounts about Soviet intelligence operations here, Israeli television reported the case of Yuri Lenov, a former KGB lieutenant colonel whose mission for five years was to spy on the Israeli nuclear programme.

The story, which came to light after being supressed for 20 years by military censors, showed that the Soviet intelligence officer had to be circumcised before posing as an Austrian Jewish immigrant. In Israel he pretended to be an insurance broker, while recruiting three agents to help him spy on Israel's nuclear establishments at Dimona and Nahal Sorek.

"It was not for the money, I was 100 per cent Russian, perhaps even a little chauvinist," said Mr Lenov, 56, who was caught and sentenced to 18 years' imprisonment but freed in a prisoner swap in 1974. He was interviewed at his home in the Bavarian village of Hassfurt.

■ There are fears that Russian agents had the perfect cover among the exodus of émigré Jews

His case has raised questions over how many other operations were mounted by Soviet intelligence, which were either never discovered or are still under censorship. Dedi Zucker, a left-wing MP campaigning for freedom of information, said that there are at least six other espionage cases from the Cold War era which should also be made public.

In addition to the Lenov case, Israeli courts have recently lifted the ban on details of four other KGB espionage operations, including Shimon Levinson, 60, a retired army colonel who worked in the Prime Minister's office; Shabtai Kalmanovich, 47, a prominent businessman arrested in 1987; Marcus Klingberg, 75, a professor jailed for 18 years for passing secrets about Israel's biological and chemical weapons research; and Major Yossi Amit, 48, a serving military intelligence officer sentenced in 1987 for spying for an unnamed country.

"The KGB obviously had some successes. What we don't know, and will probably never find out, is how many operations they mounted during the Cold War years," said Joseph Alpher, a former senior official in the Mossad intelligence service who now heads the Jaffee Centre for Strategic Studies at Tel Aviv University.

However, he questioned the quality of Soviet espionage in Israel. "When it came to the crunch their overall intelligence assessments of Israel were mistaken," he said. "They got it wrong before the 1967 and 1973 wars, when they backed the Arabs." Nevertheless, there are fears that Russian intelligence agents are among the 500,000 Jews who have emigrated to Israel from the former Soviet Union over the past five years.

Although the Russian authorities now have far fewer military and strategic interests in the Middle East, it is likely that Moscow continues to be interested in Israel for high-technology industrial espionage.

Saddam army 'at 80% of prewar strength'

BY MICHAEL EVANS DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

AS THE latest United Nations nuclear weapons inspection team left Iraq yesterday after a five-day visit, new evidence emerged of wholesale violations of the arms embargo on Baghdad.

Despite an increase in surveillance by intelligence services on commercial traffic to Iraq, military equipment, including vital spare parts, is being smuggled to the country, mostly in lorries via Jordan and Iran. Iraq has redeveloped a comprehensive black market arms procurement network.

This week, German and Saudi intelligence agents, said to be acting on a tip from American and British counterparts, raided a German freighter in Jeddah and seized hundreds of barrels of Chinese chemicals intended to make rocket fuel in Iraq.

One Western intelligence assessment claims that President Saddam Hussein has succeeded in rebuilding his army to about 80 per cent of its strength before the Gulf War. According to sources, there are now six or seven corps with a total of 30 divisions. Although that is about half the strength of Iraq's army before the eight-year Iran-Iraq war, the force is now more efficient and more mechanised.

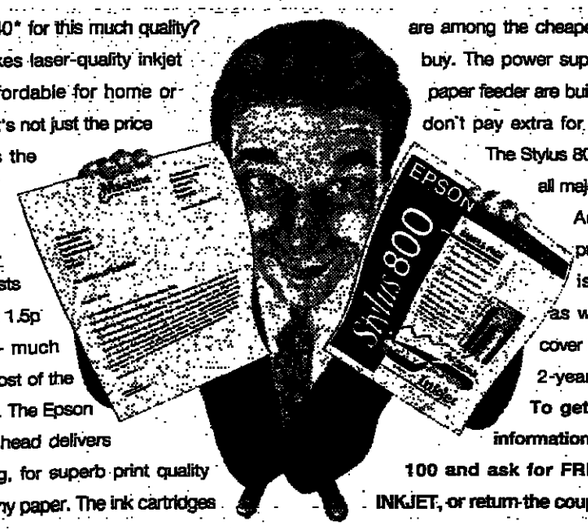
Iraq's land forces include 2,500 tanks, more than 3,000 armoured personnel carriers and about 1,500 artillery pieces. More than 200 military factories are working again, including a T72 tank assembly line and production plants making artillery, short-range missiles, ammunition and spare parts.

The air defence system, severely damaged in the Gulf War, has been fully restored, the sources said. The operational capability of the air force remains limited because of American, British and French aircraft patrolling over Iraq, but there are still nearly 400 combat aircraft in fighting order.

The main Western concern continues to be Baghdad's ambitions to develop weapons of mass destruction.

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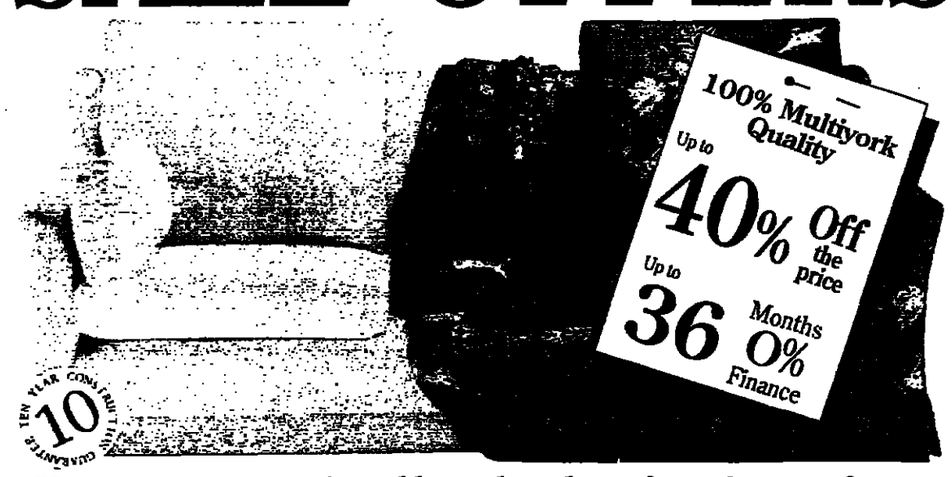
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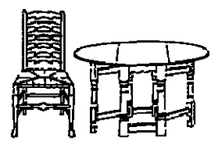
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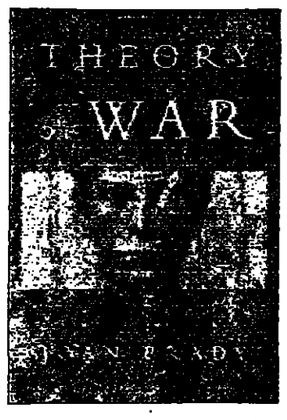
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America's guilty silence



The Whitbread prizewinner reveals a secret the US refuses to face — white slavery. Daniel Johnson talks to the author whose family still bear the scars

Joan Brady's prizewinning novel, *Theory of War*, based on her grandfather's experience as a white slave after the American Civil War, has upset the liberal assumption that the legacy of servitude in the United States is a uniquely black experience.

By winning one of Britain's most important awards, the £23,000 Whitbread Book of the Year, on Tuesday evening, against strong competition from Andrew Motion and Rachel Cusk, this elegant Californian-born widow of 54 has become a literary celebrity overnight. Her success will oblige Americans to confront an ancient injustice which most would prefer to forget.

Theory of War (André Deutsch, £14.99/Abacus £6.99 paperback) highlights a grim episode in American history: "bounding out", the sale of white children for labour without pay or civil rights until the age of 21. After the Union's victory in the Civil War had set the black slaves in the southern states free, the war left hordes of unwanted orphans, the children of destitute widows or unemployed veterans. Though they had the prospect of eventual liberty, their market value was far lower than that of black slaves, and owners had even less incentive to treat them well. Most never saw their families again.

> 'Marsha Hunt is a generation further from slavery than I am'

Joan Brady's paternal grandfather, Nathaniel, was just such a child: sold by a Union soldier, Daniel Brady, to a tobacco farmer at the age of four for $15. The protagonist of *Theory of War*, Jonathan Carrick, is closely modelled on Nathaniel, who died before she was born. Jonathan's attempted murder of George, the son of his owner, before running away at 16 is also based on Nathaniel Brady's life. Jonathan suffers such indignities as having his teeth extracted to be sold at $2 a tooth in England.

At the Whitbread dinner, Ms Brady talked about how four of her grandfather's seven children, including her own father, committed suicide. The emotional cauterisation inflicted during his own childhood as a slave caused Nathaniel to "destroy" several of his own children and, indirectly, his grandchildren. In a note at the end of the novel, she comments poignantly: "My sister's therapist said to her, 'You have all the hallmarks of an alcoholic's daughter.' But alcohol has no part in it: it's the emotional skids and dark anger that taint anybody, black or white, even at the distance of two generations away from slavery."

When I spoke to Joan Brady yesterday, she admitted that she was still "slightly stunned" by the verdict of the Whitbread judges (who included William Waldegrave and David Mellor), and had no idea what she would do with the money. She has lived here for nearly 30 years, and has no plans to return to America. Though munificent, the Whitbread seems not an unreasonable reward for ten years' work, during which her husband, the writer Dexter Masters, died; her friend Mary Wesley encouraged her to complete the book.

Since its first appearance in Britain a year ago, *Theory of War* has also been published in the United States by Knopf, having initially been rejected by her American agent. "The response there has been pretty good, such as it is, but sales have been disappointing. There is the political correctness aspect."

The American literary establishment is so much in the grip of PC that the idea of white slavery is simply not yet an acceptable subject for debate. To this day, Brady says, the Anti-Slavery Society puts the global total of child slaves at 100-200 million, and lists the US as one of the main offenders.

At the Dartington literary festival Marsha Hunt, the black American singer, was on the platform next to Brady. "Marsha Hunt said what a good novel it was and so forth, but as for white slavery, she said only: 'Joan Brady doesn't know what she's talking about, because she isn't black.' She thought it wasn't even possible that I could understand what it was to be descended from slaves."

The experience clearly still rankles. How did it go down with the audience? "Marsha Hunt is a performer; because she's black and I'm white, the stage was hers. In reality, she's probably a generation further from slavery than I am. She was plainly a very rich woman, whereas I was, well, plainly not rich. It was almost entirely a white audience of liberal views. To say a single word against her would have been seen as taking advantage."


Joan Brady — dark anger, even at the distance of two generations away from slavery

Joan Brady is not, however, a woman to let herself be intimidated: "People have assumed that slavery and being black can more or less be identified. But it doesn't matter what colour you are. The black experience in America was a truly dreadful one, but a final coming to terms with the past doesn't yet seem to include sharing that experience. That is still a victim mentality ... I can see that they feel robbed, but this is my inheritance, too."

She denies that her novel is a denunciation of America, and is sensitive to the possibility that its "endorsement by foreigners" in Britain may breed resentment of her in America. Her grandfather began life as a slave, yet ended as a prominent citizen, and her father became a professor at Berkeley: "This shows the vibrancy and optimism of America. But the resentment is there."

I asked her how her grandfather's ordeal had affected the family. "There were two boys, five girls, of whom only one escaped unscarred. His coldness was extreme; you couldn't approach him without him withdrawing immediately. He built the local school and swings for them, but he had never played as a boy and he worked his kids hard all the time." How did they react later? "They hated him."

She was able to get away by becoming a ballet dancer, leaving home for New York at 17. Her grandfather has, she feels, bequeathed not only his lithe looks but also some of his tough, driven character to her. Her decision to give up dancing at 22 to study philosophy, and more recently to take up physics, suggests that her grandfather's determination has been passed down to her.

"It was difficult to make him appealing; I tried three personalities on him before I got it right. Yet you may feel drawn to someone who is always angry." Quietly she adds: "He must have found submission very hard."

Another taboo of polite society broken

What's a lay-by for anyway?

There was a gathering of outraged citizens in the newsagents yesterday morning when I picked up the papers. "I should think the whole country's talking about it," said one respectable middle-aged matron, waving her broadsheet. "I'm sure they are," said another with an answering wave of her tabloid. I thought I was about to hear complaints about the degree of explicitness with which all the news media, from the staidest to the sauciest, have reported the Taylforth libel case.

Editors have been a little uneasy about going into all this unprecedented detail about oral sex, but after the judge made everyone involved troop out to the court car park and stage rival representations of precisely what a couple could or could not get up to in a Range Rover it became impossible to report the case intelligibly without doing so.

That wasn't at all the cause of the outrage, as it turned out. Nobody mentioned it. No, what bothered this heterogeneous collection of people was the invasion of Miss Taylforth's and Mr Knights' privacy by PC Terence Talbot. "I mean really," said a man of sixty-odd, "what's a lay-by for anyway? When I was courting in the Fifties I always assumed that's how they got their name. Young people didn't have their own flats then, and parents were a lot less permissive than they are now about what went on under their roof. Haven't the police got better things to do?"


MARGOT NORMAN

There was a bit of banter about blow-by-blow accounts and *The Sun's* choice of headline; readers had sent a deluge of faxed suggestions, including the one-word headline "Choked!" in the best/worst "Gotcha!" tradition. Then the gathering dispersed, probably to compose entries for that newspaper's Taylforth limerick competition. A gift of a name, that, for some budding A.P. Herbert.

I went home wondering not about the adults, but about what all the children who watch *EastEnders* will make of their latest sex education lesson. *Neighbours* is the most popular television programme among primary school children, who rapidly graduate (from the age of about eight, I believe) to the harsher world of Albert Square.

They lap up any publicity about Tricky Dicky, Kathy and the rest, and ever since Freddie Mercury died of Aids parents have known that any star-struck child has the skills of a George Carman when it comes to cross-examination on uncomfortable subjects. The youngest are the worst, more direct and more tenacious than any teenager who is hampered, no doubt, by unwillingness to admit ignorance.

Parents have had a long run of this. There was Freddie Mercury and the after-school lessons on homosexuality and sexually transmitted diseases. There was Madonna and her exhaustively publicised film featuring tricks with bottles along the lines of those performed by Gillian Taylforth in the video that sank her in court. And most recently, of course, children have debated in playgrounds up and down the land whether Michael Jackson did or did not do what he has been accused of, before running home to ask Mummy if she could explain precisely what this dreadful thing was.

This time, because even radio and television have been so explicit, it may be that parents will be spared a grilling on the mechanics of oral sex. Perhaps this is just as well, because the average adult wriggles out of the obligation to explain matters sexual to the young. How often do you hear people say: "Oh, I leave that sort of thing to the school" or "Oh there's nothing I can tell them, they know everything already?" Stuff and nonsense.

It is dangerous ignorance and playground innuendo, not a surfeit of knowledge, that produce teenage experimentation and subsequent regret on the scale revealed by the Wellcome Trust's sex survey. What could be more pathetic than the sight of Natasha, the little girl in a nightie cradling the baby she had recently given birth to, telling the BBC's *Living with the Enemy* on Monday night that she didn't know about contraception because "we don't get taught that until the fourth year and I'm only in the third year, so I've got another year to go"?

There is much to be said for *ad hoc* tutorials arising from the newsworthy goings on of teenage idols, and they may be better done matter-of-factly by a newspaper than evasively by an embarrassed parent. At least they satisfy the classic educational criterion of relevance; nobody nods off at the back of the class when the topic is *EastEnders*, though I confess I cannot understand why.

In any event, after the Taylforth case newspapers will never again be able to refer vaguely to "a sex act" when what they actually mean is oral sex. Another taboo gone, in much the same way as the Lady Chatterley case released earthy Anglo-Saxon vocabulary into polite society, and the Wolfenden report made homosexuality discussable.

Actually, one of the ironies of this case is how Miss Taylforth's boyfriend Geoffrey Knights, "flashy designer-suit tug" as *The Sun* calls him, manages to have a £500,000 house and a Ferrari to sell in order to pay the lawyers when various bona fide creditors have been waiting since 1989, when his office equipment leasing company was wound up owing £300,000. Well, I think it's interesting anyway, and if you'd rather hear the limericks I shall have to say sniffily that, unprecedented explicitness notwithstanding, this is not that kind of newspaper.

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Emma Wilkins on the argument that ancient myth shapes our view of modern woman

The she-devils, from Medea to Madonna

MARINA Warner delivered her first Reith lecture "Monstrous Mothers: Women over the Top", last night, drawing on evidence dating back to Euripides' Medea to demonstrate her thesis that ancient myths shape our perceptions of modern women.

The fear of women in modern society has taken on a new vigour, she argues — citing Steven Spielberg's female dinosaurs in *Jurassic Park* as her first dramatic example.

The carnivorous velociraptors have their upside: nippy, clever, and good at teamwork. But these lethal creatures, who prey in pairs, ultimately devour the only man in the film who tries to understand or respect them, prompting Warner to ask if the terror they inspire is in any way connected to their femaleness.

She suggests that feminism has become a "whipping boy" produced to explain a multitude of social ills, from family breakdown to delinquency and violence among children.

"Men are no longer in control, women are not what they used to be, and it's all the fault of Germaine Greer, *Cosmopolitan* and headlined stars who choose to be single mothers, like Michelle Pfeiffer," she says. With Aunt Sally firmly in place, Warner suggests this view has a binding grip on the popular imagination. Her aim in the first lecture is to loosen the ties by searching for its origins, starting with classical mythology.

The she-monster, as created by Spielberg, is not a new phenomenon: her roots are found in Greek myths, particularly in that of Medea. Her sorcery wins the Golden Fleece for Jason — at a terrible price, yet he deserts her for another woman who is more useful to his ambitions.


MARINA WARNER
1994 REITH LECTURES

Avoiding any reference to the recent follies of Tory MPs, Warner argues that Medea's awful revenge — the murder of her own children by Jason — has resonance and relevance to women today.

"Among bad mothers of fantasy, she is the worst; as such she speaks to our times, when the bad mother is always present as an issue, as a threat, as an excuse, as a pleasurable self-justification and as a political argument."

Warner, who has a 16-year-old son, argues that women still use and abuse the authority they are allowed as mothers — because it is what they have, or in Medea's case, what they have left.

WARNER, who is only the second woman in 33 years to deliver the Reith lectures, is by no means the first to pick apart the Medea myth. In 1405, a young widow, Christine de Pizan (a single mother), wrote the *City of Ladies*, in which a pre-Utopian society is founded and run by women. Medea is introduced, with breathtaking disregard for history: "Medea ... was very beautiful, with a noble and upright heart and a pleasant face," Pizan wrote. Later, she explains — as a warning on the dangers of love — that Medea was abandoned by Jason. Pizan says Medea became rather "despondent", with no mention of the murders.

Warner disapproves of such memory-lapses: "When I first read this, nearly 20 years ago, I thought Pizan was absurdly coy, and felt that feminism could not proceed without facing women's crimes as well as their wrongs — the ills they did as well as those done to them."

This remains Warner's position, as far as the historical progression of feminism goes, but she points out that Pizan's Medea — as myth — has as much truth and value as that of Euripides.

The Medea myth echoes through the centuries, through Keats's serpent/woman "Lamia" to Sylvia Plath's "Edge", when the poet describes the triple death of mother and children as if it were the fulfilment of a need, or as Warner says "matching a desire".

Women have, occasionally, successfully confronted the fear issue, by highlighting their femaleness. Virago, the feminist publishing house, is one example — another is the group of five women writers in Zagreb, who were recently denounced as "dangerous" by the Croatian nationalist press. They immediately had badges made for themselves and their supporters, bearing the motto: *Opasna Xena* (dangerous woman).

Madonna, whose book of pornographic photographs was published recently, is another example of women who have "grasped the she-beast of demonology for themselves", Warner says.

But she disapproves of the pop star's aggressive sexuality. The book, extolling the star's own sexual power, is "in wilful and mindless blindness to most women's continuing vulnerability in sexual matters".

The fear of women, particularly single mothers, has manifest itself most recently in a series of "furious" attacks from the Cabinet and the media, Warner says. By explaining the roots of the terror, she hopes to replace ignorance with understanding.

"The same policy-makers who deregulate, who throw employment and housing onto the mercy of market forces, want to regulate the family. It would be better if they stopped their law and order ranting and looked clearly at the social revolution that is taking place," she says.

While Prince William's upbringing as the son of a lone mother brings him closer to the reality for increasing numbers of his subjects, the wealth-factor makes him unique, she says.

"More than one in six of his future subjects are being raised by lone mothers. One of the reasons why the public isn't specially afraid that Prince William will turn out a hooligan ... has more to do with the comforts he enjoys than the state of his parents' marriage," she adds.

FOR HER finale, Warner explodes the myth of the preying mantis — the female insect popularly supposed to devour her mate after intercourse.

Scientists in California (naturally) filmed the mantis secretly, so she believed she was mating in private, and gave her plenty to eat beforehand. They discovered that the insects indulged in a pleasant ritual dance in place of cannibalism and both partners survived.

Warner is triumphant: "This most loved creature in the surrealist bestiary of misogynist folklore; this insect famous for devouring her mate alive after mating, has been vindicated. Let them alone, give them enough to eat and look! They fall into peaceful mutual post-coital slumber."

Next week: "Boys will be Boys: the making of the male".

** The BBC Reith Lectures are broadcast on Radio 4 on Wednesday nights at 8.45.*

Pancreatitis and alcohol...damage to fragile young brains...good news for ear-lobes

Pain and champagne



MEDICAL BRIEFING

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

Gillian Taylforth's companion on her ill-fated day out at Ascot, Geoffrey Knights, has been admitted to hospital five times for the treatment of pancreatitis.

Mr Knights and Miss Taylforth claim that they stopped on the A1 slip road so that Mr Knights could be sick and have his upper abdomen gently massaged to ease the pain he suffers as a result of this condition. What was happening in the Range Rover may have been disputed, but there is no dispute that Mr Knights's day at the races had been made more enjoyable by the liberal consumption of champagne. He attributed the exacerbation of his pancreatic symptoms to over-indulgence.

To have had such severe recurrent pancreatitis that hospital admission has repeatedly been necessary, and to continue to drink heavily despite this, is far more foolhardy than anything else which Mr Knights might have done that day.

More than 50 per cent of patients with acute pancreatitis die within 20 years of the diagnosis being made, but their prognosis is very dependent on their subsequent alcohol intake.

Research has shown that if patients continue to drink heavily, the ten-year survival rate is reduced. The most optimistic surveys demonstrate a 40 per cent death rate over the ten-year period, the most pessimistic 80 per cent; conversely, if patients stop drinking their outlook is good.

The pancreas lies in the upper back of the abdominal cavity; it secretes lipase, trypsin and chymotrypsin, enzymes necessary for digestion; associated with it too are the endocrine islet cells which produce insulin.



Taylforth and Knights

Pancreatitis, inflammation of the gland, is classified as either acute, acute relapsing, or chronic. The causes of pancreatitis are legion. Important as alcohol is, in many instances it is a common error to assume that pancreatitis is necessarily the result of heavy alcohol consumption. In a third of cases no cause is found, in half of all cases pancreatitis is associated with gall bladder disease, in others it may be precipitated by infections, or some drugs including steroids and thiazide diuretics (water pills).

The symptoms of pancreatitis were described in court. The patient has severe upper abdominal pain, often radiating to the back, tenderness, nausea, vomiting, wind, and loose, fat-laden stools. In a really acute attack the temperature rises, blood pressure falls and the patient may collapse.

Chronic pancreatitis is even more often associated with heavy drinking than is acute pancreatitis. The pain is less severe but more persistent, nausea and vomiting are common and, as the pancreatic tissue is progressively destroyed, the fatty diarrhoea (steatorrhoea) becomes an increasing problem.

Long-term malabsorption as a result of failure of the digestion can be eased by taking pancreatic enzymes. Previously these were destroyed in the stomach, but by taking the modern stomach-acid reducing drugs they are now able to pass unscathed through into the intestine, thereby enabling the patient once again to digest his or her food.

Shaken up



WHEN a boxer suffers a sudden jarring blow to the head, damage to the brain occurs not only at the point of impact but also to the cerebral tissue directly opposite it, a contrecoup injury. The brain has a consistency of blancmange and is capable of movement within the rigid skull. Brain damage can also occur when there is sudden deceleration of a moving head; when the brain is shaken to and fro within its container, as it slops backwards and forwards widespread damage is done.

In the High Court this week Mr Justice Scott Baker heard that Thomas Dowling, the small boy who was brain-damaged while being cared for by a Surrey County Council approved childminder, might either have received a direct blow, or have been violently shaken.

Few people who look after children would ever punch one on the head, but it is not uncommon to see a parent shaking one when driven to exasperation. Not all children savagely shaken will have such obvious symptoms as Thomas's. The sequel of a head injury may be much more subtle. For every child who in later life is retarded, suffers convulsions, has some paralysis or damage to the sight or hearing, there must be many who were less seriously affected and are just not as bright as they might have been, have a poor memory, or will be rather clumsy. In every case of a head injury, improvement takes place over a matter of years rather than months. Everybody looking after children should remember Thomas Dowling, who now suffers from epilepsy and learning and behavioural problems, and should visualise a child's brain being agitated within the skull, and the damage this can do.

Ear aid



EUROPEAN ministers' interest in health has now extended beyond the hygiene of abattoirs and food storage to that minor ritual of adolescence — ear-piercing.

After a lobe has been punctured the wound needs to be kept open with a stud so that, when healed, an ear-ring may be slotted through it. Too often the stud is made of a nickel alloy, and can produce a permanent sensitivity to nickel. To be safe gold, silver or even stainless steel should be used. Medical advisers to the European Community estimate that 10 per cent of the population is nickel-sensitive, and that the most common reason for this is ear-piercing.

It is not unusual to see ear-lobes which are inflamed and weeping as a result of contact dermatitis, but less well-known is that the rash may spread to other parts of the body. Unfortunately, once nickel-sensitivity has been established it is lifelong.

The inconvenience of this sensitivity is great, for nickel is used not only in cheap jewellery but in such everyday items as watch cases and straps, which can cause eczema of the wrist, the clips on bra straps, which can result in inflammation of the skin of the back, and even in the buttons or zip fasteners on jeans, which can give rise to intense irritation of the abdominal skin. Wherever the rash starts, it may become widespread.

General Practitioner magazine reports that EC officials in Brussels have now considered the problem of desensitising nickel ear-lobe studs, or sleepers. Ministerial support has been received for their suggested new regulations, and if these are approved nickel ear studs will be banned, and the proportion of nickel in cheap jewellery reduced.

The great pretenders

Ian Robertson enters the bizarre world of people who deliberately fake illness in themselves or others



Nurse Beverly Allitt was diagnosed as suffering from Munchhausen's syndrome by proxy after attacking 13 children in her care, killing four

Jenny was a 35-year-old secretary who lived quietly with her fiancé. She had few close friends, and tended to merge into the background. One day, her fiancé announced that he was breaking off the engagement and told her to move out of his apartment. A distraught Jenny went back to live with her mother.

A few months later, Jenny announced to her colleagues that she had breast cancer. They reacted warmly and sympathetically, rallying round to share her workload, and taking her out some evenings when she didn't feel too ill. Gradually, Jenny lost weight, her hair began to fall out, and she no longer put on make-up to disguise her gaunt and haggard appearance.

Jenny joined a cancer support group and did not hide from her friends the severe nature of her illness and her poor prognosis. But then months went by without any further deterioration in her condition, and the support of some of her work colleagues began to wane as she failed to suffer the expected decline.

Eventually her cancer support group leader decided to contact Jenny's specialist to find out if, against all expectations, Jenny was in remission. The doctor had never heard of her. Jenny explained this by saying that she had never seen the doctor herself, only his juniors. The counsellor checked again, but there were no hospital records for Jenny at all. A distressed Jenny insisted that there had been a mix-up with her records, but by this time the penny had begun to drop with her colleagues, friends and support group — Jenny did not have cancer.

The deception cost Jenny her job, her support group and what friends she had. Only her mother stood by her. Why had she done it? To gain the care and attention which was so painfully missing from her normal life. With cancer she was the centre of a flurry of loving attention. Without cancer, she was just poor, lonely Jenny whom no-one noticed.

> As soon as they are found out in one hospital they move to another

The jargon for Jenny's problem is a "factitious disorder" — the feigning of illness to gain nurturing or attention. It is *different from malingering*, which is done for money or other material benefit, but it is equally deliberate feigning, unlike disorders such as hypochondriasis and hysterical conversion. In a book out today Drs Marc Feldman and Charles Ford of the University of Alabama cite Jenny as just one of a bewildering range of cases of feigned illness which cause immense problems to medical services, as well as to the friends and family of "victims" of these deceptions.

Unmarried women in their thirties are over-represented in this category; in addition, between a third and a half of all cases work as nurses, therapists or in other hospital jobs. Their knowledge of symptoms and disease makes them skilled at feigning illness.

In 1991 the nurse Beverly Allitt attacked 13 children in her care in a Lincolnshire hospital, killing four and causing brain damage in others. An enquiry led by Sir Cecil Clothier QC is about to report on this case of a bizarre and extreme version of factitious disorder — Munchhausen's syndrome by proxy.

In this condition, children are deliberately injured or made ill by a carer — a mother, relative or professional — who then busies herself with treating the damage she has caused — sometimes unsuccessfully. Sufferers tend to have longstanding personality disorders, and many have a history of being abused as children themselves.

While Munchhausen's syndrome by proxy often results in death or injury to others, people who have plain and simple Munchhausen's syndrome cause illness, severe injury or even death to themselves, so powerful is their addiction to being at the centre of medical attention. While the typical factitious disorder sufferer is female, in her thirties and in a paramedical job, the typical pure Munchhausen is a man in his forties or fifties whose life is devoted to deceiving doctors and being admitted to hospital. These men have few family or friendship ties, and have a roving, itinerant lifestyle which leads them to see the world by hospital-hopping.

These people often spin remarkable tales about their dramatic and colourful histories, getting away with it most of the time. As soon as they are found out in one hospital, often after weeks of expensive care and investigations, they move on to another. While some confine themselves to nebulous but nevertheless sinister symptoms, others will press lighted cigarettes into their gums to simulate mouth tumours, or inject themselves with faeces to provoke infections — just two of the cases which Drs Feldman and Ford describe.

As if it is not enough for hospitals to have to cope with these medicine-hungry individuals, in America they now have to be worried about being sued for *not* doing so. Recently, a young woman who feigned cancer subsequently sued 35 physicians for $14 million because they failed to recognise and treat her for a factitious — ie, feigned — disorder. The insurance company settled out of court for a quarter of a million dollars.

● Patient or Pretender: Inside the Strange World of Factitious Disorders *by Marc D. Feldman and Charles V. Ford with Toni Reinhold is published by John Wiley today. £14.95.*

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Should you ditch your blood pressure pills?

Nigel Hawkes talks to a GP who thinks hypertension is overtreated

Are your tablets really necessary? Northumberland GP Dr Malcolm Aylett suspects that for many people taking drugs to control blood pressure, they are not.

He has launched a programme which urges selected patients to throw away their pills. If Dr Aylett is right, and many people can survive just as well without medication, there are going to be some sleepless nights for the pharmaceutical companies and a huge financial saving for the health service.

STOSH — stopping treatment of selected hypertensives — is the first project of its kind in the country, and has the support of the Northern Regional Health Authority. It stems from Dr Aylett's conviction, reinforced by evidence from abroad, that many people have been prescribed drugs to reduce their blood pressure that they do not need.

"Quite a lot should never have been given the drugs," he says. "Their blood pressure was high, but it might only have been a short-term effect. People can be depressed, or under stress, and their blood pressure will increase. Then it is detected by their GP, who persuades them they are unwell and puts them on drugs for the rest of their lives."

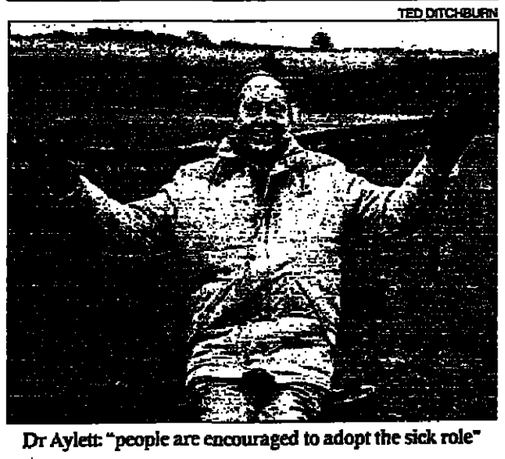
He began with a small pilot study in his own practice at Wooler. Of nine patients he took off drugs, eight showed no sign of increases in blood pressure over a two-year period of careful monitoring.

Now he has expanded the programme to a total of 221 patients from 19 practices in Northumberland and Newcastle. So far, 152 have been followed up for at least 12 months, and 93 of them remain on no medication, without any increase in blood pressure. The clinical responsibility for each patient remains with the individual's GP, and the plan is to maintain follow-up for three years.

At the end, Dr Aylett hopes to draw some conclusions about the proportion of patients who are being treated unnecessarily, and to establish guidelines for deciding who can safely be removed from medication.

"Trials of stopping antihypertensive medication in other countries have shown that between 15 and 74 per cent of patients remain normal for three years," he says. "This appears to depend to some extent on pre-treatment blood pressure levels, good control, and the duration of treatment. Providing that you monitor blood pressure and don't allow it to increase, there are no risks."

TED DITCHBURN



Dr Aylett: "people are encouraged to adopt the sick role"

There is plenty of evidence that blood pressure measurements are an uncertain area of diagnosis. In a study carried out in an Italian hospital ten years ago, the blood pressure of 48 patients was continuously monitored. In all but one case, it rose as the doctors approached the bedside.

The anxiety of the examination was sufficient in itself to push up blood pressure significantly. This "white coat" effect has also been documented in GPs' surgeries. Plenty of people who have been told they have slightly elevated blood pressure by their doctors have perfectly normal pressure the rest of the time.

Better results can be obtained by using a small, portable device that measures blood pressure continuously. Ambulatory blood pressure monitoring, as the technique is called, measures pressure every half-hour. At a workshop on the subject held in Oxford last year, Dr Andrew Coates, consultant cardiologist at the Royal Brompton National Heart and Lung Institute in London, said: "Many patients are right in thinking that blood pressure levels taken in what for them are the unusual circumstances of a clinic are not the real readings."

But the use of this type of monitoring is not yet widespread, so most people are treated on the basis of clinic readings. The treatment varies widely. Some doctors will urge changes in lifestyle, such as losing weight or giving up smoking, but others take a more aggressive line, prescribing drugs such as diuretics, beta-blockers, calcium antagonists and the newest variety, ACE-inhibitors. In America, the tendency is to prescribe the drugs at even mildly raised blood pressure, while British doctors are generally more cautious.

Dr Aylett says that his decision will be based on an individual judgment of the patient. "If you have a patient who has diabetes, and perhaps a high cholesterol level, that may justify putting him back on the pills," he says. "But if it's a woman in her sixties who is constantly up and down the hills walking her dogs, then moderately raised blood pressure doesn't justify medication."

It is not just a question of the cost of the drugs, and their possible side-effects. "It encourages people to adopt the sick role," Dr Aylett says. "Their doctors have told them they are ill, and they start to behave that way. They say things like 'Oh well, I must expect to be impotent now that I've got high blood pressure.' So coming off medication can be a big psychological boost."

Nor is the cost element negligible, though it is not the main motivator. Dr Aylett reckons that every GP's practice has, on average, 100 patients on medication for high blood pressure. Since there are 30,000 practices, that makes three million people. "For every 1 per cent who gave up medication, the NHS would save £1 million a year."

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هكذا من الأصل

Janet Daley



■ Lowering the age of homosexual consent to 16 will encourage boys to be seduced by an ideology

Two years ago, I argued on this page against lowering the age of homosexual consent to 16. I pointed out that, from the time of my youth in San Francisco, there had always been gay men among my most treasured friends. My opposition to this change in the law came from a fear that it would produce a backlash and thus undermine the benign tolerance which mercifully prevailed.

Sir Ian McKellen, given space by *The Times* to reply, called me a "closet homophobe" and wondered why any self-respecting gay man should call himself my friend. Fortunately, my friends have ignored this admonition and it is now my turn to wonder what Sir Ian felt his abuse contributed to the debate. The shrillness of his response seems to me typical of what is truly the greatest threat to homosexual freedom.

I am still convinced that the immaturity of adolescent boys makes them more suggestible and manipulable than girls, and that this is an excellent reason for not making them legal objects of seduction — even by their peers. The tone taken even by moderate campaigners like Sir Ian makes my worry more acute. The politicising of homosexual life greatly increases the danger in which adolescents may be put. What do I mean by danger? Why, if gay life is not objectionable in itself, should there be any peril in joining it?

Let us leave aside the Aids threat. Assuming — for the sake of charitable argument — that all gay men practise safe sex, I confine myself to the question of psychological risk. The more strident activist voices — who have been largely supported by the media — are turning homosexuality into a commitment which locks people into what might have been a transitory stage of their emotional development. A commitment which, as it happens, cuts them off from parenthood — one of the major satisfactions of adult life. To be gay is now seen as being part of a movement. Having once signed up, it is dishonest or disloyal to deny your membership, even if the acts or inclinations which qualified you for the club have become a fading memory.

Instead of encouraging freedom and flexibility, gay activism implies that, once homosexual or bisexual, you should for ever count yourself part of the "gay community". If you do not, there are plenty of people around who will remind you of your past and suggest, with due recrimination, that you have reneged on it. But what is the "gay community"? And who makes its rules? The homosexuals I know are as different from one another in their temperaments, interests and values as heterosexuals.

The things which they have in common are more a function of their lack of family responsibilities than of their sex lives. To say that occasional or experimental acts should be taken as defining one's identity is not liberating, it is stultifying. What is worse is that, for the insecure and unformed, such certainty of self-image can be fatally attractive.

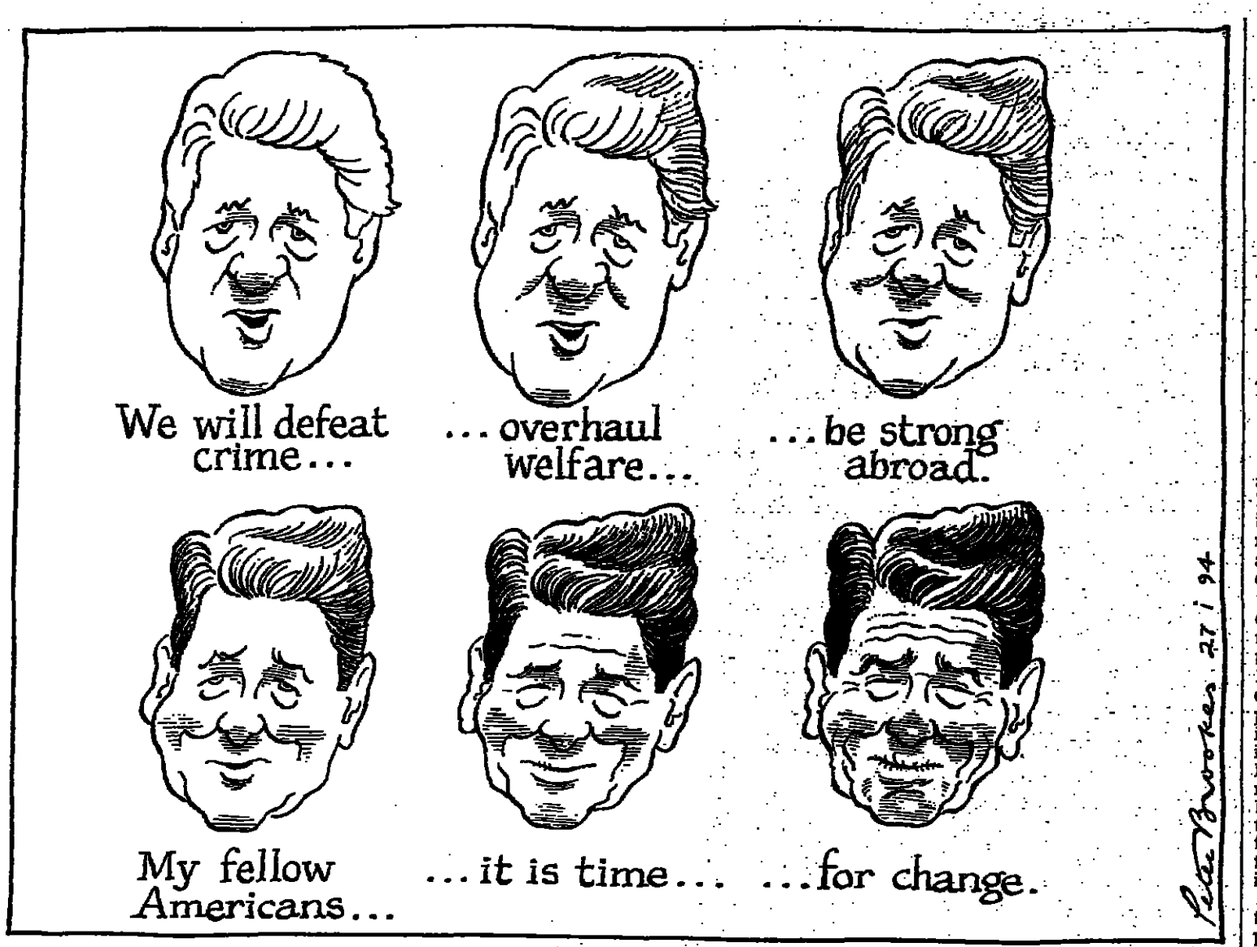
As the endlessly fascinating British sex survey, *Sexual Behaviour in Britain*, shows, a fair number of teenage boys experiment with homosexuality. As one would expect, this activity has been — at least in the past — most common in single-sex boarding schools where youthful sex drive and emotional isolation from families draw boys into emotional and physical involvement with one another. Now that homosexuality is being represented as a self-contained way of life, what might once have been a boyhood phase is seen instead as initiation into a ready-made identity — one so confident of its own distinctive self-sufficiency that it rejects Shakespeare as the voice of an alien culture.

> 'What might have been a boyhood phase is seen as initiation into an identity'

And here is where the question of numbers becomes so important. By any reasonable logic, the low number of practising homosexuals found by the new sex survey should have been a gift to gay rights. After all, the fewer gay men there really are, the less of a threat they must constitute to social stability and to most people's sons, thus making a change in the law far less menacing. Instead, activists have responded furiously. Peter Tatchell of the lobby group Outrage insists that the figure of only 1.1 per cent of the male population being actively homosexual cannot be correct, while offering no objective evidence to contradict it.

What gay activists want is to present homosexuality not as an insignificant minority but as an alternative "normality". However, it is quite unlike mainstream heterosexual normality in its insistence that what you do in bed is what you are: that your sex life is not an incidental fact about you, but your essence. To be absorbed into this obsessive view of sexuality is not the least of the dangers of early initiation into gay life.

And all sexual initiation is potentially dangerous, both emotionally and physically. What I would suggest — quite seriously — is that the age of consent for men be equalised at 18 for heterosexual and homosexual activity, thus making it clear that sexual activity of all kinds is for grown-ups.



A legal hell on wheels

The Taylforth trial was a grotesque waste of time and money that exposed the deep faults of the libel laws

William Rees-Mogg

There are some puzzling questions about the libel action Gillian Taylforth and Geoff Knights brought against *The Sun*. The most obvious one is why they brought the action at all. The explanation offered by Chris Roycroft-Davis, the assistant editor of *The Sun*, is that "she took a gamble that she and her boyfriend were going to make some very easy tax-free money at our expense." The story had also been published by the *Daily Star* and *Daily Express*, so victory over *The Sun* might have been followed by other lucrative settlements.

Yet the odds must always have been against the couple. They faced costs now estimated at £500,000 if they lost, as they did. To make it an even money bet, they must have hoped for awards and settlements which would add up at least to that. Yet in the circumstances of the case few juries, even if prepared to accept their explanation of their conduct in the slip road, would have wanted to go to the highest level of damages.

The facts can never have seemed to be much in their favour. The jury was either going to believe them or the policeman who gave evidence; Mr Knights had already signed a document which appeared to be an admission; even if the embarrassing video of Miss Taylforth had never surfaced, the jury might well have preferred the police evidence to that of the couple. If it was a gamble it was a foolish one. Of course, they may have hoped that *The Sun* would settle without making a fight of it.

Another puzzle is that the police were represented in court; their costs have been estimated, rightly or wrongly, at the same level of £150,000 as those of *The Sun*, complete with George Carman, QC. There is evidence that *The Sun* obtained the story from police sources; indeed the *Daily Star* and *The Daily Express* presumably did so as well. Yet that in itself would neither be a defence in law to an action for libel nor would it mean that an action for libel could readily be brought against the police.

It is well established that anyone who publishes a defamatory article cannot justify it by arguing that he or she was accurately reporting someone else; the responsibility for justifying a libel falls on the person who publishes it, in this case the editor of *The Sun*. The police, quite reasonably, helped *The Sun* by providing the witness without whom the allegation could not possibly have been proved; but that would not have required the police to be represented by counsel, nor would they necessarily have been joined in the case. As the police costs will apparently have to be paid by the unsuccessful plaintiffs, the question is of some interest.

Indeed the whole conduct of the police has not been fully explained. So far as I have read the reports, it was never established how the story had reached the newspapers. Had it done so through official police channels, as a matter of public interest, or had it gone through the unofficial network which connects the police to Fleet Street? There is a difficulty either way. When a couple, one of whom is a television celebrity, have been let off with a caution for a minor offence, can it be any official duty of the police to inform the press? On the face of it one would think not. If, on the other hand, the network was in operation, there is the question of whether police confidentiality was observed. How did the newspapers know? That was not an issue in the trial, but it is an issue left behind by the trial.

There is also the question of the enormous costs. The case was essentially a trivial one. The two people bringing the action are engaged — he is described as her fiancé. The jury believed that they enjoyed oral sex in the relative but imperfect privacy of their Range Rover on a public road. A pedestrian who — like the policeman — looked through the window, might have seen what they were doing. Probably someone going past in a car would have noticed nothing out of the ordinary. Neither Miss Taylforth nor Mr Knights is a judge of the High Court, a beneficed clergyman, the captain of the English cricket team, nor any other dignitary who might reasonably be expected to behave at all times in a decorous way. By any normal standard, the whole story is, or was, utterly unimportant. Like Rhett Butler, we "don't give a damn".

Yet this non-issue has occupied many days of the time of the High Court and cost about £500,000; that estimate excludes the non-legal costs and may in any case be too low. From every point of view, except that of the lawyers involved, the whole affair has been a grotesque waste of time and money.

This action could be seen as a contempt of the High Court, which is short of judges and can hardly spare judicial time for such silly trivia. It has been a disaster for the couple involved: they may have behaved foolishly, and the jury did not believe they were telling the truth, but they are paying an extremely high price for anything they have done. If they wanted a gamble, they might as well have joined a Gooda-Walker syndicate at Lloyd's.

The state of our libel law is equally unsatisfactory for *The Sun*, which has in recent years lost some very expensive actions, with high damages and costs of the same order as in this case. *The Sun* has won this time, but has lost repeatedly in the past, and may do so again in the future.

Virtually all the big libel cases of recent years have been preposterous in one way or another. The costs have been ruinous to individuals, and damaging to newspapers or broadcasting bodies. There is no guarantee that a losing party will be able to pay; Lord Aldington is heavily out of pocket after being awarded costs and record damages. Where damages are given they are usually disproportionate to any quantifiable damage done, often far in excess of those awarded for grievous injuries. If newspaper vans ran amok in London and crashed freely into innocent pedestrians, that would cost their proprietors less than a few defamatory paragraphs.

The reason is that judges determine damages for personal injuries, but juries decide how much the damages for libel should be. It is a task to which they are quite unsuited. Very few jurors hear a libel action more than once in a lifetime. They cannot therefore form any scale of values to apply to different cases. Few jurors have personal experience of sums of money of the size of the larger damages that they award. To them it is all much the same as a prize on the football pools. Many cases are brought against newspapers, which jurors see — sometimes wrongly — as having very deep pockets indeed. There is some sense of moral satisfaction in penalising the tabloid press for all their past sins; that could have been what Miss Taylforth was relying on.

Plaintiffs have read of awards of £500,000 or £1 million or more, and they hope to settle for damages of that order, perhaps without having to go to court at all. The simplest way of restoring sanity to our law of defamation would be to leave the question of libel or no libel to the jury — as was determined in the late 18th century — but have the judge settle how much the libel was worth. Moderate damages mean moderate costs, since no one will risk £500,000 to win damages of £20,000.

The soundest damages are those which relate to actual financial loss. If a newspaper publishes an untrue allegation that an eminent banker is a fraudster, and he loses his job, then the damages should cover the loss of the job, as though that had been cuased by any other means. They could be very large. In most cases defamatory publicity does little financial harm; the BBC has not sacked Miss Taylforth from *EastEnders*, though the libel action itself had much wider circulation than the original story in *The Sun*. In some cases the publicity can actually enhance the earning power of an entertainer.

Damages for mental distress are harder to assess. That can vary in its consequences from a couple of sleepless nights to suicide. Public figures have to be prepared for such distress; their positions expose them to criticism. Of course, newspapers should sometimes have exemplary damages awarded against them, to deter them from reckless libels on innocent people. But even for that, judges would be better than juries. Damages are often enormous and usually irrational; they may fail to deter simply because no one can foresee what they might conceivably be.

A better Bank of England

Nicholas Budgen on his plan for fiscal freedom

On Friday I shall be asking the House of Commons to give a second reading to a Bill to amend the Bank of England Act, 1946. This is not a Bill to create an independent Bank or even an autonomous Bank. It is no attempt to graft another fancy foreign institution into our constitution.

The proposal, based on recommendations by the Treasury select committee, is that the general power of the Treasury to give directives to the Bank of England should be amended. In its place the Bank will have a primary objective of achieving stability in the general level of prices. The instructions given to the Bank of England by the Treasury will be recorded in writing and published. However, the Government will have the power to direct the Bank to formulate monetary objectives other than the achievement of price stability. This is an override power.

The main object of the proposals is to increase openness — to allow the public, the press and Parliament to know what the Government's monetary policy is and the extent to which the Bank is given the freedom to achieve the Government's stated objectives. These proposals increase the sovereignty of Parliament and make the Government and its servant, the Bank of England, more accountable. They do not create a Bundesbank, a Federal Reserve Bank or even a New Zealand Central Bank.

This is not a revolutionary step forward. It is an attempt to build upon practices that have been adopted by the Treasury and the Bank of England since September 16, 1992. The Bank now publishes a quarterly inflation report which is not monitored by the Treasury before publication. It explains present and future monetary policy and anticipates its effect upon the future underlying rate of inflation. The Bank of England has also been given greater freedom in implementing changes in interest rates agreed between the Bank of England and the Chancellor.

On December 16 last year, the Chancellor expressed his preliminary view on the select committee's proposals. He said: "I have a feeling that the select committee's proposal is becoming a rather fashionable cause. We should consider it with care, also taking account of such matters as parliamentary accountability for an increasingly more autonomous Bank of England."

I am not sure what he means by fashionable. But if he means ill-considered and ephemeral then I agree. However, an idea, if it is to stick and even be translated into law, must be discussed in detail and be properly kicked around. No harm is done if a fashionable idea is incorporated into a Bill and then goes into committee where it is found wanting.

His second point again deserves serious consideration. As I explained earlier this is not a proposal for an increasingly autonomous Bank of England. Parliamentary accountability will be made more effective by requiring the instructions given to the Bank of England to be written and published. However, the Chancellor remains the minister responsible for monetary policy. Under these proposals, if he decides to change the instructions to the Bank he may do so. In any circumstances the instructions have to be open and written, with the Bank explaining to the public the probable consequences of the orders it has received. Thus it will be more difficult for any government to repeat the stance of both 1972-74 and 1986-88. During both those periods the Government proclaimed its intention to reduce inflation while at the same time creating the monetary conditions which made a future increase in inflation certain.

This Bill should be allowed a second reading so that it may go into committee. I do not pretend that my proposals are the last word on relations between the Bank and the Treasury. My proposals are based upon the recommendations of the select committee. Its members started with different views. However, in the end this all-party committee with one exception agreed to the final recommendations (Diane Abbott opposed them in the belief that they might lead to a British Bundesbank). I do not say that our committee represents a complete consensus. I should be pleased to accept any amendments in committee which would be likely to create some detachment between the Bank and the Treasury.

Most of all, the Government should grasp the opportunity given to it by the discussion in committee. If confidence returns to the British consumer, the deficit will be funded to an increasing extent by foreign holders of sterling. If foreigners are to lend the Government £1 billion a week, they will wish to know in detail what are the Government's plans to maintain the value of the pound. They may misunderstand if the Government uses its voting power to prevent even a discussion of the advantages of a more open relationship with the Bank. Such a misunderstanding could lead to higher interest rates for everybody. Nobody in Britain wants that.

The author is Conservative MP for Wolverhampton South West.

Royal reshoot

THE DRAMA of the Prince of Wales's Antipodean tour is not without precedent. An assassination attempt was made on one of the Prince's forebears when he was in Sydney. On March 12, 1868, Prince Alfred, Duke of Edinburgh, the navally minded son of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert, was shot and wounded during a public picnic by an Irish Australian gunman with Fenian connections. He survived to become Admiral of the Fleet but the gunman, H.J. O'Farrell, was subsequently tried, sentenced to death and hanged.

The 1868 incident was not the first involving the Prince. When he arrived in Australia on another visit in 1867 a crowd of Irish Catholics stormed the Orange Lodge building in Melbourne during his visit there. Shots were fired, a youth was fatally wounded and the incident was commemorated by a pine tree planted in the park.

More surprisingly, perhaps, there are also precedents for the other high spot of the Prince of Wales's tour: the point at which he declared he once considered having a tattoo on his chest. The princely interest could have been prompted by Lord Lichfield, his second cousin, who has a seahorse tattoo on his arm, according to the British Tattoo Artist Federation.

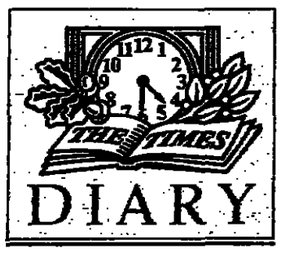
"Lots of royals had tattoos," says the federation's colourfully decorated Lionel Titchener. "George V was tattooed when he was a naval cadet; Prince Albert, Duke of Clarence and Avondale, had one done by a Japanese tattooist. And Edward VII was tattooed in Jerusalem before he was made king." It can only be a matter of time before the Prince of Wales follows suit.

Time and Motion

BRITAIN'S biographers were seen spluttering into their wine glasses last night at the Whitbread Book of the Year Awards when Andrew Motion, last year's winner in the biography category, proferred some advice: "The very least you can do is to find out where your subject was every day of his life," he said.

Admirable though Motion's sentiment is — he claims to have known what Philip Larkin was doing every day from his nineteenth year until he died — other biographers are unimpressed. Philip Norman, biographer of the Beatles and Elton John, says: "He must be raving mad. It's the sort of thing you say when you've had a few glasses of wine at the Whitbread awards."

● *The curse of* Hello! *magazine may yet come to haunt the society fraudster Darius Guppy, detained at Her Majesty's pleasure for his part in a £1.8 million jewel heist. Labour MP Andrew MacKinlay is seething over an alleged £75,000 paid by the magazine to Guppy for an interview from Kirkham open prison, Lancashire. He has tabled questions to Home Secretary Michael Howard demanding a change in the law to prevent such an occurrence. "This man is taking the mickey out of law-abiding citizens," he complains.*



Eyes down

THREE government ministries cannot see eye to eye over bovine spongiform encephalopathy — quite literally. John Patten's squeamish advisers at the Education Department want to add cows' eyeballs, which are commonly dissected in school biology classes, to the BSE blacklist of meat products. Virginia Bottomley and her health advisers agree. So does the National Farmers' Union and, more logically, the Vegetarian Society.

At the Agriculture Department, however, Gillian Shephard's officials are appalled by the suggestion, arguing that people don't eat cows' eyeballs. Sheeps' eyes may be a delicacy but the bovine equivalent definitely not. "We are assured by producers that eyeballs are not, and never have been, part of the make-up of meat pies," the man from MAFF insists. "We were advised that the risk from cutting them up is so incredibly remote as to be infinitesimal."



All stars

AFTER more than a century of serving the great and the good, The Café Royal Grill in London's Regent Street, established in 1865, has been awarded a Michelin star for its culinary achievements. So too has the west London restaurant Leith's, to its proprietor Prue Leith's understandable delight: "She always wanted a Michelin star more than the OBE," said one of her excited staff. "She got the OBE two years ago and now she's got this as well."

Other newly starred restaurants in the 21st issue of the *Michelin Guide*, a guzzling gourmet's bible which is launched today, include London restaurants Les Saveurs and The Square Mile. And regular customers such as Princess Margaret's long-standing friend Ned Ryan are rushing to toast their success. "The Café Royal has a beautiful dining room," he says. "It's got so much gilt decoration and the food's delicious." No room for complacency, however. Hartwell House, a purveyor of fine British cuisine near Aylesbury, has had its star, awarded in 1991, most ingloriously removed.

● *Yesterday's social security select committee opened with a remark from chairman Frank Field on President Clinton's State of the Union speech about absent fathers. Asked his opinion, Peter Lilley, our Social Security Secretary, was clearly smarting from the assault on his own premises. "The President might well wake up and find graffiti all over the White House front doors," he replied.*

Pale green

HOT on the heels of the Oxford Union's difficulty in finding Tory frontbenchers to champion its back-to-basics debate comes the sequel. No one seems prepared to fight the Government's corner in the union's environment forum on Monday. Labour have put up Chris Smith, and the Green Party is represented, but the whips appear to have deterred Tories who might have come forward.

"We tried everyone," cries the union. "But to no avail." They must have been too busy studying the Prime Minister's green plan for Britain, launched this week.

A NATION OF ISLANDS

Public policy should address the trend towards isolation

The latest volume of Social Trends, published today, provides a snapshot of the way Britons live. It puts hard numbers to soft intuitions. The nation, it says, is becoming more prosperous, though unevenly so. Real disposable income per head reached a record high in 1992; yet the share of national earnings in the bottom fifth of households fell between 1981 and 1991. More young Britons are becoming students than ever before. There was one divorce for every marriage in 1991, while the number of one parent families as a proportion of families with dependent children has nearly doubled since 1976.

This annual aggregation of social statistics invariably adds to existing political debates about income distribution, welfare and citizenship. Yet it also foreshadows future concerns. Most intriguing of all this year is the disclosure that more than a quarter of households now consist of one person living alone. In the early 1960s, only 14 per cent of homes fell into this category; by 1991, the figure had soared to 27 per cent. The most striking increase in the last quarter century has been in the numbers of men under pensionable age living alone. By the turn of the century, this group will account for one in ten households. Unnoticed, bachelordom has become a growth industry.

The most obvious impact of this social trend will be an increase in the number of households. On present trends, the Government expects a 15 per cent rise over the next two decades: there will be more division of houses into flats, more cars, more household appliances, greater demands for local services. Fewer homes will enjoy the emotional support and economies of scale associated with family life; the State and environment will bear a heavier burden.

Set in the context of other social trends revealed in today's report, the growth in one person households may be seen as part of general cultural shift towards individualism. The social constraints of marriage and illegitimacy are in decline. At the same time, an increasing number of Britons are seeking independence through property. More than twice as many homes are owned by their occupants as in 1961. People are becoming more conscious of their rights and acting as critical consumers in their dealings with the public sector: the Health Service Commission received twice as many complaints in 1992 than in 1976. For many people, living alone is a decisive way to express this wish to be self-reliant.

Yet the desire for privacy and independence can also lead to sequestration from society. People know where they can claim their rights. But from where come their duties? Today's report suggests the growing detachment of modern Britons from the communities in which they live: the decline of voluntary work and the increase in television-watching. There is a risk that a growing number of householders will sink into isolation and — in many cases — lonely dependency upon the State.

To their credit, several ministers, led by Michael Portillo, are starting to explore ways of strengthening communities and the ties that bind them. Politicians cannot reverse fundamental technological and social changes that are taking place throughout the world. But they ought to provide ideas about how man's need for society can continue to be addressed. The perilous trend towards the atomisation of life may be impeded, for example, by well-designed public architecture such as the Byker Wall estate in Newcastle and the more recent Eldonians project in Merseyside. The potential scope of the Neighbourhood Watch scheme — so far limited to the fight against crime — has yet to be realised. At a time of general political listlessness, there are rich possibilities to be found in this new agenda.

HOSOKAWA'S CRUSADE

A snap election would be in Japan's best interest

Morihiro Hosokawa, the Japanese Prime Minister, faces the toughest decision of his brief period in office. Electoral reform, the platform which gave his fissiparous coalition its majority in last July's elections, has been sabotaged in the Upper House by some of his Social Democratic Party allies, who voted with the Liberal Democrat (LDP) opposition last week. Unless he can cobble together a compromise with the LDP by Saturday, when this Japanese parliamentary session ends, the bills will lapse. He would then have three choices. He could soldier on, with his credentials as a political reformer severely damaged. He could resign, as other would-be reformers have before. Or he could call a snap election.

None of these courses is risk-free. To stay would be to gamble on the divisions within the LDP. Its party barons have fought hard to keep electoral reforms at bay: many of its members would lose their seats under a more transparent system. Last year's defeat has shocked others into support for change, but there are not enough of them to enable Mr Hosokawa to win without concessions that would tear the heart out of the reforms. A deal might free the prime minister's hand to tackle the economy. But Japan would have again postponed real change, perhaps for another generation.

The second course, resignation, would betray the Japanese people who long for a Reformation after decades of corruption and electoral venality — and would probably defer elections only by a few months. That leaves a snap election. The LDP has a formidable electoral machine; Mr Hosokawa, low in funds and weak in organisation, would be gambling that voter disgust would outweigh the LDP's advantages.

Japan's powerful businessmen and bureaucrats are aghast at such a diversion from the task of handling Japan's economic emergency: stubborn recession, combined with an undiplomatically high trade surplus, and anaemic domestic consumption. Evidence that Japan's economy touches nerves other economies do not reach could be seen in the visit to Tokyo — coinciding with the collapse of Mr Hosokawa's reform package — by Lloyd Bentsen, the US Treasury Secretary.

With singular disregard for his host's domestic predicament, Mr Bentsen chose to read him the riot act on trade. This was miserably inept. The needs of the Japanese economy — however pressing — will not be met by either the dilution or the postponement of electoral reform. And America's best hope for economic reforms also lies with Mr Hosokawa.

The LDP is fighting for its life. Fully implemented, Mr Hosokawa's reforms would spell disaster for this monolith, which ran the country for nearly 40 years. Its internal logic will not allow it to accept a law that would curtail financial contributions to political parties. Its resistance to the abolition of multiparty constituencies is only slightly less unyielding. In calling for elections, Mr Hosokawa would be taking a risk. It would still be the better and braver course. They would throw the LDP on the defensive. Mr Hosokawa could take his original package of reforms back to the electorate, free from the taint of surrender which any compromise would entail.

PRINCELY ADVICE

Prince Charles offers wise words on Australia's future

The Prince of Wales reacted with admirable sang-froid to the sound of shots being fired at him on the Sydney waterfront yesterday. Although the bullets turned out to be blanks, the spectre of an assassination attempt flickered across the world's television screens for an awful, brief moment. The incident was alarming in its implications for the security of the royal family. Although the Prince's safety can never be absolutely guaranteed on such a tour, the trade-off between security and informality must inevitably now be adjusted in favour of security.

His subsequent speech about the proposal to turn Australia into a republic, though overshadowed, was important and it well deserved the additional television audience that it unexpectedly received. His words had a poignancy that may decisively influence the great debate. It is his future position, rather than that of the Queen, which is at stake. The referendum promised by Paul Keating, the pro-republican prime minister, has been postponed until 1997 at the earliest, and public opinion appears to be moving towards a compromise: retaining the monarchy for the duration of the Queen's reign, but then instituting a republic. Prince Charles made no attempt to sway the vote. Instead he spoke, with humility and humour, about his affection for the country where he was educated for a year; he accepted the inevitability of change but pointed to the yearning for stability; he insisted that the decision could be made only by Australians.

In this he echoed what the Queen had already made clear in private to Mr Keating at Balmoral last summer and what emerged, in more delphic form, from last October's Commonwealth conference. Neither has conceded that the monarchy's role is over; both have underlined the importance of a wide-ranging and democratic debate; and both have insisted the bonds of affection will continue to bind the two countries, whatever the constitutional arrangements.

Such preconditions are self-evident in any democracy. But the debate in Australia will raise more vexing dilemmas. If a majority opts for a republic, the country must then decide the term, election procedures and powers of a president. How visible a role should he or she have? What safeguards can be built into the constitution to enable the head of state to maintain political distance from the government? How should the presidency reflect the increasingly multicultural make-up of Australian society? And — most sensitive of all — what powers should the president have to appoint a prime minister or dissolve Parliament?

The debate must be thoughtful and thorough and involve all Australians. Mr Keating should renounce any temptation to use his majority to force a change during his tenure of office. Neither Britain nor the royal family can play an active role in the argument. But Australians must realise that whatever they decide will have profound implications for those Commonwealth members still acknowledging the Queen as head of state.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Need for reform of political process

From Mr Eric Chalker

Sir, Andrew Rowe (letter, January 22) expresses the frustration of back-bench Conservative MPs at their lack of involvement in the process of policy formulation. Parliamentary processes *may well need reform, but so too do* internal party processes *outside* Parliament.

Back-bench MPs may feel excluded from the determination of policy, but at least they have direct access to ministers and numerous opportunities to have their say. Party members, on the other hand, have no influence at all.

The Conservative Party's great weakness is its total failure to introduce into its own organisation any of those reforms of the last 14 years which have enhanced the role of individuals in other walks of life. The benefits of democratic participation and accountability have passed the Conservative Party by and the party is poorer and weaker as a result.

The party has no formal process for determining its policy, whether for Westminster, local government or Strasbourg. It has no structured method of debating policy issues, let alone one for resolving conflicts.

Andrew Rowe writes of having to defend pronouncements of which he and his colleagues have had no notice. He should spare a thought for party members not in Parliament; they are kept even more in the dark, yet they are the ones who most frequently have to defend these pronouncements to the voters.

When political parties fail to establish or maintain a strong democractic structure, they risk being dominated by unrepresentative views or becoming mere vehicles for vested interests.

Yours faithfully,
ERIC CHALKER,
21 Ingleside Close,
Beckenham, Kent.
January 23.

From Mr Christopher Story

Sir, It is extraordinary that Mr Andrew Rowe, MP, should call for "a robust debate about what we want MPs to do in the 21st century".

As an MP who signed up for Maastricht, he supported legislation which delegated sovereignty and powers away from the Westminster Parliament to the supranational organisation, Coreper (Committee of Permanent Representatives), which fixes the business of the EU Council of Ministers.

The same legislation promoted the importance of the European Parliament, the procedures of which make a mockery of democracy. It also introduced a regional policy which undermines the links of the regions with the national centre in favour of Brussels and a common foreign policy which leaves our security at the mercy of collective obligations undertaken bilaterally by our EU "partners" with third countries, notably the former Soviet Union.

It seems rather late in the day for Mr Rowe to be fretting about the need for reform of the Westminster Parliament's procedures. Or is he deluded enough to believe that by reforming them some of Westminster's lost sovereignty can be restored?

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER STORY
(Director),
World Reports Ltd,
34 Maunsel Street, Westminster, SW1.

From Professor Emeritus Christopher Rose-Innes

Sir, Perhaps the aspect of Parliament most in need of reform is the parliamentary debate.

Through TV we now see how debates in the House of Commons are conducted, and what we see diminishes the standing of, and respect for, Parliament. Matters debated there are of serious consequence to the nation, yet the debates are marred by shouting and interruption, waving of order papers, jeering, cheap jibes and often general turmoil. Surely the Speaker, her deputies, the Leader of the House and senior politicians are failing the country by allowing debates to descend to this level.

During my career I have been involved in many meetings and debates, and have been chairman of not a few. I never remember any of them being allowed to descend to the level of indiscipline which is seen to be commonplace in the House of Commons.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER ROSE-INNES,
The Athenaeum, Pall Mall, SW1.
January 24.

Tipping policy

From Mr Hamish Anderson

Sir, Your letters on tipping (January 25) remind me that I still have the bill from the Strand Palace Hotel when my wife and I stayed there after our wedding in 1937. Our bill for three nights totalled £2 16s 4d and the following is printed on the statement: "No tips. Visitors are asked not to offer tips to the employees, who are adequately paid by the management. The acceptance of gratuities involves instant dismissal."

Yours faithfully,
H. ANDERSON,
19 Greenbank Gardens,
Edinburgh 10.

Sports letters, page 40

Realism on Hong Kong passports

From Mr Alastair Campbell

Sir, As one who has devoted all his working life to developing trade with China, I find it extraordinary that *The Times* should endorse the policy of the Hong Kong Governor, Mr Chris Patten, who in my view has done more to *harm British interests in the region* than any previous incumbent (leading article, "Reality over Hong Kong", January 21).

Mr Patten has consistently sought confrontation with China by pursuing a crusade for voting reform, although he occupies an unelected position with no popular mandate.

The fact that Mr Patten is responsible to Parliament means little to the citizens of Hong Kong and absolutely nothing to those who become stateless in 1997. Britain's refusal to provide the "ultimate guarantee" of a British passport only increases one's suspicion of his motives and those of his political masters; these have long mystified those who work for a more constructive relationship with China.

Mr Patten has lost much of his support from the business community and a referendum would demonstrate the wider lack of support for his policies. The stock market now ignores his crusade, knowing full well that Hong Kong will survive and prosper with or without his reforms, just as it has done for the last century.

The reality is that China will have sovereignty in 1997 and govern as it sees fit. To suppose that Britain will lead a consensus of international opinion against China's policies is surely naive and unrealistic.

Yours sincerely,
A. CAMPBELL,
73 St George's Avenue,
Tufnell Park, N7.
January 24.

From Ms Emily Lau

Sir, I am writing to commend your newspaper's unswerving support for giving British citizenship to the beleaguered Hong Kong people. Your latest editorial on this issue summed up the question of 1997 neatly: "Britain has only one sure defence to offer Hong Kong's people: the safety net of British passports."

It is all very well for Governor Chris Patten to try to project himself as a fighter for democracy and freedom for Hong Kong. But, as your editorial rightly implied, such rhetoric by the British administration will "carry conviction . . . only when it faces its duty to provide this ultimate guarantee against the worst". Sadly, Patten has so far refused to address this fundamental problem.

As the traumas associated with the impending handover to Chinese Communist rule continue to unfold, the question of how Britain can best safeguard the Hong Kong people's way of life after 1997 must be urgently addressed.

When the Commons foreign affairs committee reports on Hong Kong in a few months' time, I hope it will have the courage to urge the British Government to do the honourable thing by offering passports to the colony's abandoned third-class citizens.

Yours sincerely,
EMILY LAU
(Member, Legislative Council),
Legislative Council Building,
8 Jackson Road, Central, Hong Kong.
January 24.

From Mr Peter Willoughby

Sir, Your editorial argues that the nub of Chris Patten's case for a properly accountable elected legislature in 1995 is "to give legal substance to the high degree of autonomy after 1997 promised [to] Hong Kong's people in the 1984 Sino-British Declaration".

With respect, only China can do that, and China has done so in the Basic Law, drafted by a committee of 59 members, 23 of whom were from Hong Kong, and promulgated in 1990 in order to assist a smooth transfer in 1997. It reads: "The Legislative Council of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region shall be constituted by election . . . The ultimate aim is the election of all members of the Legislative Council by universal suffrage."

The Patten proposals seek to achieve the creation of a Legislative Council in 1995 that is composed of a majority of members who rely on popular voting for their seats. This looks like the attempt of an ingenious common law constitutional lawyer to accelerate the timetable for a broader suffrage while claiming to be technically within the terms of the Basic Law.

Your editorial concludes with a reference to the "real world" and the need to offer the ultimate safety of British passports for Hong Kong's people. While this might do wonders for the UK economy, it is doubtful whether it would appeal to many of Hong Kong's people. GDP per head in Hong Kong overtook Spain and New Zealand in 1992 and the UK and Australia in 1993. Lord Rees-Mogg has forecast (article, June 7, 1993) that in the next century Hong Kong will become "the richest city . . . richer than any city on earth".

Yours faithfully,
PETER WILLOUGHBY,
Old Mill House, La Hêche,
St Anne, Alderney,
Channel Islands.
January 23.

Violence on video

From Mr Malcolm Peel

Sir, I believe the present debate about the effects of television and videos on crime (leading article, "Violence in the home", January 22) is, like its predecessors, misdirected. As is frequently pointed out, the effect of extreme screen violence on the viewer, young or old, is not proven, and may be non-existent. What, however, has not been examined is the effect of the overall pattern of television output.

During the past four weeks, approximately 25 per cent of programmes (excluding news bulletins), on the four main channels — BBC1, BBC2, ITV (Anglia) and Channel 4 — between 7pm and midnight have had crime as their principal subject.

This continuing emphasis on crime and violence seems likely, prima facie, to have a serious effect on viewers' perceptions of the nature of their society. I believe it is to this long-term, low-level exposure to a view of society in which crime is the accepted norm that attention should be directed.

Yours faithfully,
MALCOLM PEEL,
12 Lindsey Close,
Woodnewton,
Peterborough, Cambridgeshire.
January 22.

From Mr Matthew Wyatt

Sir, You correctly draw attention to public concern over violent films. I wish to elaborate on what has been treated as a secondary threat, violent computer games, which I have seen demonstrated in stores.

One best-selling game is concerned with fighting one's way out of various situations. The aim of the game is to sap one's opponent's energy to the point where he is pictured beaten up and unconscious. The winner then gives the loser one of a selection of messages, including one that says: "Go home and be a family man." The implication is clear, that it is better to be a fighter than a caring father.

At the end of another game the winner chooses the method by which he deals with his victim. This may be tearing out his spine or ripping off his head.

Siren voices calling for a ban on violent video films seem to overlook a far worse influence. These games are available in high-street shops to children of any age. It has to be worse to play a part in violence than simply to observe it.

Yours faithfully,
MATTHEW WYATT,
47 Bradman Way,
Stevenage, Hertfordshire.
January 24.

School expulsions

From Mr Lee Bridges and Mr Stephen Cragg

Sir, In your report (January 20) of the Hampshire headmaster ordered to readmit two pupils whom he had permanently excluded from his school for allegedly smoking marijuana, the independent appeals committee concerned with the case is said to have suggested that permanent exclusion should be an appropriate sanction to impose on any pupil who commits a criminal offence while at school.

Such a policy ignores the fact that, in terms of its educational, social and psychological effects, permanent exclusion from school has more serious consequences for a child and his or her family than would most penalties available to the criminal courts in relation to similar acts. It often results in an extended loss of education and a stigma on the child's school record which can never be removed.

By contrast, a child caught by police smoking cannabis outside school would usually receive only an informal warning or caution, especially if it were a first offence. Even if the matter did go to court, such an offence would be unlikely to attract more than a small fine. The child would also have the right to legal advice and representation under the legal aid scheme when being questioned by the police or in presenting a defence in court.

What educational, social or legal justification is there for a school being able to impose the much more serious penalty of permanent exclusion, in the absence of legal and procedural safeguards for the child?

Yours sincerely,
LEE BRIDGES
(Research and Policy Officer),
STEPHEN CRAGG
(Project Lawyer),
The Public Law Project,
Charles Clore House,
17 Russell Square, WC1.
January 20.

From Mrs Marjorie Easton

Sir, The governors of this school were ordered by the Secretary of State to admit a pupil who had been excluded from a neighbouring school for an offence similar to that allegedly committed by the boys at the Romsey Community School in Hampshire.

I sympathise with their headmaster, Dr Skinner, but some other provision has to be made for such pupils beyond sending them to the school down the road, which may also wish to make a firm stand against drugs.

Yours faithfully,
MARJORIE EASTON
(Chairman of Governors),
Abbeylands School,
School Lane,
Addlestone, Surrey.
January 20.

Better treatment of breast cancer

From Dr Ann Johnson

Sir, "The breast cancer lottery" (leading article, January 15; letters, January 21) spotlights the unsatisfactory management of breast cancer by accident of referral pattern. But the death *rate is not "an eminently avoidable defect"*. Britain's death rate reflects our high incidence of breast cancer. The improvement in survival, recorded by overview of worldwide trials of treatments which would fulfil guidelines laid down in 1986, proved to be a mere 10 per cent (reported in *The Lancet* in January 1992).

This result represents a stalemate. It fails to identify those patients who benefited from particular treatments and therefore does not advance the management of future patients. One reason for this failure lies in the lack of satisfactory investigations to detect the distant spread (metastasis) which is almost invariably the cause of death. Another is that "breast cancer" is really a range of diseases; a panacea should not be expected.

A good prescription demands an accurate diagnosis but this is impossible in the present state of the art. There are two promising lines of approach.

First, for those patients who already have the disease, estimates of the likely patterns of growth and response to different treatments can be inferred from simple laboratory investigations of samples of the tumour (e.g., microscopic characteristics and hormone receptors).

Apart from very small and screen-detected cancers, the actual response of an individual's tumour may be determined by direct observation during drug treatment used as the first option before surgery; and subsequent treatment may be modified accordingly. This approach requires close collaboration between the specialities.

Secondly, the investigation of the metastatic process and the detection of microscopic deposits of tumour should be given high priority in basic research funding.

It is misleading to imply that we already have the means dramatically to change the death rate, were we to follow the "guidelines".

Yours sincerely,
ANN JOHNSON,
Mount Vernon Hospital,
Breast Study Centre,
Rickmansworth Road,
Northwood, Middlesex.
January 21.

From Mr Michael Harmer

Sir, Dr Trevor Powles of the Royal Marsden Hospital (letter, January 21) pleads for the referral of all women suspected or diagnosed as having breast cancer to special units for treatment. This is a compelling argument and logically may be applied to all forms of malignant disease.

However, 30 years ago I visited the Soviet Union to see the oncological institutes in Moscow and Leningrad. I was told that there were 13 such institutes in the USSR and that all doctors were required to refer any patient suspected of having cancer to such a centre.

I asked how medical students might learn about cancer if it was never seen or treated in their teaching hospitals. To this I received no answer.

Yours truly,
MICHAEL HARMER
(Honorary consulting surgeon,
The Royal Marsden Hospital),
Perrot Wood, Graffham,
Petworth, Surrey.
January 22.

Patients on trolleys

From Dr Christoph C. Lees

Sir, I was interested to hear of Mrs Bottomley's concern (report, later editions, January 21) regarding the amount of time patients spend on trolleys in accident and emergency departments before admission to a hospital bed.

In my experience, there is invariably an inverse relationship between the length of time a patient waits in casualty on a trolley and the number of free hospital beds available. It is, of course, axiomatic that a patient cannot be admitted to a bed that doesn't exist.

I trust that Sir Duncan Nichol, NHS chief executive, to whom Mrs Bottomley voiced her disquiet, will come to a similar conclusion.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPH C. LEES,
29 Cressy House,
Queen's Ride, Barnes, SW13.
January 21.

Safety first

From Mr Roland E. Mann

Sir, Mr W. Hocknell's apprehension concerning his new electric kettle (letter, January 24) must, I think, be equalled by my incredulity upon opening a new electric heat gun for paint stripping, capable of delivering 1,200°F. On the side of this appliance I read: "Not for use as a hair dryer."

Yours faithfully,
ROLAND E. MANN,
Little Orchard,
Doghurst Lane,
Chipstead, Surrey.
January 24.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
January 26: The Princess Royal, President, Save the Children Fund, this morning attended a Seventy Fifth Pre-Launch Media Event, Convocational Hall, Church House Conference Centre, Church Walk, Dean's Yard, Westminster, London SW1.

Her Royal Highness, Patron, the Butler Trust, this afternoon visited HM Prison Belmarsh, London SE28, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of Greater London (Field Marshal the Lord Bramall KG).

The Princess Royal, Patron, the Association of Combined Youth Clubs, this evening attended a Glenn Miller Charity Concert and Reception at the Royal Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1.

Mrs Andrew Feilden was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
January 26: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, President, The Royal Ballet, today visited the Royal Ballet School, White Lodge, Richmond Park.

Mrs Jane Stevens was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
January 26: The Duke of Gloucester, Patron, Silver Jubilee Walkway Trust, today attended a luncheon given by Shell International Petroleum Company Limited, Shell Centre, Belvedere Road, London SE1.

Major Nicholas Barne was in attendance.

Today's royal engagements

The Princess Royal, as Patron of the HFT Development Trust, will attend a quiz evening at the Café Royal at 8.00.

The Duke of Gloucester, as Patron of the Council for Education in World Citizenship, will attend the Pedal for the Planet boat launch at St Katherine Haven Yacht Club at 11.30; and, as Deputy Colonel-in-Chief of the Royal Logistic Corps, will attend a dinner at the Princess Royal Barracks, Blackdown, at 7.20.

The Duke of Kent, as President of the Automobile Association, will attend the 50th anniversary dinner of the standing committee at the Royal Automobile Club at 7.45.

The Duchess of Kent, as Patron of the Spastics Society, will visit Helen House, Leopold Street, Oxford, at 11.00.

Fruiterers Company

The Fruiterers Company has elected the following officers for the ensuing year: Master, Mr M.C. Wallis; Upper Warden, Sir Rowland Whitehead, Bt; Renter Warden, Mr M.J. Tanguy.

Dinners

Diplomatic and Commonwealth Writers Association of Britain

The Hon Douglas Hurd, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, and Mr Andrew Neil, Editor of *The Sunday Times*, were the guests of honour at the annual dinner of the Diplomatic and Commonwealth Writers Association of Britain held last night at Marlborough House. Miss Hella Pick, president, presided. The German Ambassador, the Romanian Ambassador and the Commonwealth Secretary-General and Mrs Anyaoku were among those present.

British Trust for Conservation Volunteers

Lord Norrie, President of the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers, was the host and speaker at a dinner held last night at the Cavalry and Guards Club. Mr Robert Atkins, Minister for the Environment and Countryside, was the principal guest.

Reception

HM Government

Mr Ian Lang, Secretary of State for Scotland, was host at a reception last night at Dover House for parliamentary lobby and gallery correspondents.

Today's birthdays

Mr Mohamed Al Fayed, chairman, Harrods, 61; Professor Gillian Beer, professor of English, 59; Mr N.R. Bomford, head master, Harrow School, 55; Sir Wilfrid Bourne, QC, former Clerk of the Crown in Chancery and permanent secretary, Lord Chancellor's Office, 72; Mr Jack Brymer, clarinettist, 79; Mr John Bury, designer, 69; Mr Michael Collins, clarinettist, 32; Sir Kenneth Corfield, former chairman, STC, 70; Mrs Mairead Corrigan-Maguire, Nobel laureate, 50; Baroness Cumberlege, 51; His Honour Lord Dunboyne, 77; Sir John Eccles, neurologist, 91; Air Commodore the Hon Timothy Elworthy, Captain of The Queen's Flight, 56; the Right Rev H.D. Halsey, former Bishop of Carlisle, 75; Brigadier Rita Hennessy, former matron-in-chief, QARANC, 61; Mr John Hopkins, writer, 63; Viscount Lifford, 45; Señor Federico Mayor Zaragoza, director-general, UNESCO, 60; Lord Merrivale, 77; Mr Alan Milburn, MP, 36; Miss Nina Milkina, pianist, 75; Miss Patricia Rawlings, MEP, 55; Lord Rix, actor-manager and chairman, Mencap, 70; Mr Roger Sims, MP, 64; Sir Donald Spiers, controller, Aircraft, MOD, 60; Mr Neville Trotter, MP, 62; Sir William van Straubenzee, former MP, 70; Lord Vinson, 63.

MICHAEL POWELL



Sir Peter Imbert, former Metropolitan Police Commissioner, unveiling his portrait at New Scotland Yard. The picture was painted by Charles MacKinnon, who was introduced to Sir Peter by a friend. It is traditional for former commissioners to donate their portraits to the Metropolitan Police

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Richard Bentley, scholar and controversialist, Oulton, near Leeds, 1662; Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, composer, Salzburg, 1756; Samuel Palmer, landscape painter, London, 1805; Eugene-Emmanuel Viollet-le-Duc, architect, Paris, 1814; Lewis Carroll (pseudonym of Charles Dodgson), writer, Daresbury, Cheshire, 1832; William II, German Emperor 1888-1918, Berlin, 1859.

DEATHS: Sir William Temple, statesman, Moor Park, Farnham, Surrey, 1699; Philip Astley, theatre manager, Paris, 1814; Johann Gottlieb Fichte, philosopher, Berlin, 1814; Samuel Hood, 1st Viscount Hood, admiral, Greenwich, 1816; John James Audubon, naturalist and artist, New York, 1851; John Gibson, sculptor, Rome, 1866; Giuseppe Verdi, composer, Milan, 1901; Giovanni Verga, novelist and dramatist, Catania, Sicily, 1922; Baron Carl Mannerheim, President of Finland 1944-46, Lausanne, 1951; Mahalia Jackson, gospel singer, Chicago, 1972.

The first public demonstration of television by John Logie Baird, London, 1926.

Leningrad was relieved after a siege of three years, 1944.

Three American astronauts died in the Apollo capsule during tests at Cape Kennedy, 1967.

The Kent Society

The Annual General Meeting of the Kent Society will take place at 2.00pm on Saturday, March 12, 1994, in Grimond Lecture Theatre 2 at the University of Kent at Canterbury.

Britannia Royal Naval College, Dartmouth

The following candidates were declared successful for entry to the Royal Navy and entered Britannia Royal Naval College, Dartmouth, on January 5.

Direct Graduate Entry

Sub Lieutenant (Full Career Commission) Seaman:
Miss K A Cahill, Miss L C Murison, I J Williams, P R Beacham, A J Killick, D V Codling, M J Jasper, A S Dowdeswell, R E Jamieson.

Sub Lieutenant (Medium Career Commission) Seaman:
D C West, R H Tacey

Sub Lieutenant (Short Career Commission) Seaman:
N L C Kyle, Miss N L Cullen, Miss S L Spooner, Miss J E McWilliams, N J Lucocq, Miss L J Govan, Miss C P Atkinson, Miss R M Russell, Miss C Millar, Miss N S Tregaskis.

Naval College Entry

Midshipman (Full Career Commission) Seaman:
D L Pretty, I D M Hutchins, D Clarke, A S Williams, R J Mellor, J D Gould

Midshipman (Short Career Commission) Seaman:
R A Osbaldestin, J Borbone, A D Ball

Direct Grant Entry

Sub Lieutenant (Medium Career Commission) Engineering:
Miss G S Stewart

Sub Lieutenant (Short Career Commission) Engineering:
F J Dalton, P J Deeks, D M Barrows

Sub Lieutenant (Short Career Commission) Aircrew (Observer):
A S Richards, Miss S L Malkin

Sub Lieutenant (Medium Career Commission) Aircrew (Observer):
B C Hodgson, A H Watson, D J R Pass, K J Fletcher, S J Canning, M K Day

Naval College Entry

Midshipman (Short Career Commission) Aircrew (Observer):
A R McWilliams, T D Beale.

Midshipman (Medium Career Commission) Aircrew (Pilot):
S J Pressdee, D J Denham, I J Sharrocks, P J Noon

Direct Graduate Entry

Sub Lieutenant (Short Career Commission) Aircrew (Pilot):
J R Mitchell

Lieutenant (Short Career Commission) Instructor:
Miss D J Rouse, A M Barker, O T Flanagan.

Lieutenant (Short Career Commission) Instructor:
S J Lewis, Miss J Citrine, A J Thompson, J Boston, Miss C A Kearsley (née Hogben), N L McMullan, Miss C E L Leaver.

Naval College Entry

Midshipman (Short Career Commission) Air Traffic Control:
K Temple, Miss S J Maunder.

Appointment

The London Goodenough Trust for Overseas Graduates

Christopher Craig to be Warden of London House in succession to John Pepper who has retired.

Church news

Resignations and retirements

The Rev Rowland Butt, Rector, Ebchester (Durham): to resign as from February 28.

The Rev Ronald Carter, Rector, Upper St Leonards St John the Evangelist (Chichester): to retire as from April 30.

The Rev Herbert Clegg, Curate, St Giles w St Margaret's and Saints Philip and James, Oxford (Oxford): to retire as from March 31.

The Rev Herbert Cooper, Vicar, St Mary w St Rhadagunde, Whitwell; Rector, St Lawrence; and Priest-in-charge, St John, Niton, Isle of Wight (Portsmouth): to retire as from January 31.

The Rev Christopher Jackson, Vicar, Hartlepool St Oswald (Durham): to resign as from February 28.

The Rev Philip Oliver, Team Rector, Blackbourne Team Ministry and Rural Dean of Ixworth (St Edmundsbury and Ipswich): to resign as Rural Dean as from Eastertide, but continue as Team Rector.

School news

St Francis' College, Letchworth

The Spring Term at St Francis' College began on Wednesday, January 5 and ends on Friday, March 25. Alexandra Ray is Head Girl and her deputies are Preti Taneja, Sarah Hoffman and Emma Wildman. The Entrance Examinations will be held on Friday, February 4. A joint Preparatory and Senior School Spring Concert will be held in the Jubilee Room on Wednesday, March 16 and Thursday, March 17.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr T. Botterill and Miss C.F. Edwards

The engagement is announced between Tony, youngest son of Mr John Botterill and Mrs Sheila Botterill, of Poole, Dorset, and Claire Frances, only daughter of Mr Irwin Edwards and Mrs Jean Edwards, of Milford Haven, Pembrokeshire.

Mr C.M. Craggs and Miss E.L. Rowan Hamilton

The engagement is announced between Marcus, son of Mr Gordon Craggs, of Dennington, Suffolk, and Mrs John Agar, of Woore, Shropshire, and Emma, daughter of the late Major Angus Rowan Hamilton and of Mrs Angus Rowan Hamilton, of Millhills, Crieff, Perthshire.

Mr A.J. Fox and Miss A.M. Hamilton

The engagement is announced between Andrew Joseph, eldest son of Mr Andrew J. Fox and Mrs Mary Ellen Fox, of Dublin, and Anne Melian, daughter of Mr and Mrs Anthony Hamilton, of London.

Dr C.T. Gibbons and Miss H.M. Inward

The engagement is announced between Christopher, son of Mr K.D.W. Gibbons and Mrs E.M. Gibbons, of Leamington Spa, and Helen, younger daughter of Dr and Mrs P.W. Inward, of West Kirby, Wirral.

Captain J.N.N. Orr and Miss E.L. Bird

The engagement is announced between Captain James Nicholas Niven Orr, The King's Royal Hussars, son of Mr and Mrs John Orr, of Sinnington, North Yorkshire, and Emma Louise, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Ronald Bird, of Gillingham, Dorset.

Mr M.S. Parsons and Miss H.L. Sawyer

The engagement is announced between Mark, son of Mr and Mrs David Parsons, of Ninfield, East Sussex, and Helen, daughter of Mr David Sawyer, of London, SW1, and Mrs Lucianne Meacher, of Wimbledon.

Mr P. Vickery and Dr M. Birney

The engagement is announced between Peter Vickery, of Clifton, Bristol, and Margaret, second daughter of Mr and Mrs D.S. Birney, of Wellesley, Massachusetts.

Marriage

Mr T.C.C. Low and Miss B. Fraser

The marriage took place on January 8, 1994, in Durbanville, South Africa, of Timothy, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Peter Low, of Dubai, United Arab Emirates, and Belinde, daughter of Mr and Mrs William Fraser, of Capetown.

Luncheons

WS Atkins

Mr Stephen Dorrell, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, was the principal guest at a luncheon given by the chairman and directors of WS Atkins Limited at the Savoy Hotel, London, yesterday. The guests included:

The Right Hon the Hon Sir Archie Hamilton, MP, Sir David Hancock (director, Hambros Bank), Sir William Ryrie (vice-president, International Finance Corporation), Mr Peter Mason (chief executive, Balfour Beatty), Mr James Watson (chairman, NEC), Mr Roger Byatt (senior managing director, NatWest Bank), Mr Tony Jackson (executive director, Blue Circle Industries), Mr Alan Whitfield (director, Department of Transport), Mr Mark Lambirth (assistant secretary, Department of Transport), Mr Frank Kennedy (managing director, Wimpey Construction and Engineering) and Mr John Kingman (PPS to the Minister).

WS Atkins directors present were: Mr Terrel Wyatt (chairman), Mr Colin Haylock (chief executive), Mr Michael Jeffries (marketing director), Mr David James, Mr Richard Jarvis, Mr Richard French, Mr Richard Cuthbert, Dr John Couch and Mr Paul Jowers.

Anglo-Austrian Society

Lord Campbell of Croy, President of the Anglo-Austrian Society, and Lord Clark of Kempston, chairman, gave a luncheon in honour of the Austrian Ambassador and Mme Hennig, at the House of Commons yesterday, by courtesy of Mr Paul Murphy, MP, honorary treasurer.

Canada-UK Chamber of Commerce

The Canadian High Commissioner was the speaker at a luncheon of the Canada-United Kingdom Chamber of Commerce held yesterday at Wragge & Co, Birmingham. Mr David Birch, president, was in the chair.

Carlton Club

The American Ambassador was the guest of honour and speaker at a luncheon of the Political Committee of the Carlton Club held yesterday at the club. Mr Giles Chichester, chairman of the political committee, presided. Sir Anthony Garner also spoke.

London Society of Chartered Accountants

Mr Malcolm Bacchus, MA, FCA, FRSA, Chairman of the London Society of Chartered Accountants, presided at the annual Chairman's Luncheon of the London Society of Chartered Accountants held at the Honorable Artillery Company yesterday. Sir Allen Sheppard, Chairman and Chief Executive of Grand Metropolitan Plc, was the guest of honour. Other guests included:

Mr Stephen O'Brien (chief executive, London First), Mr Michael Chamberlain (president, Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales) and the chairmen and presidents of other major institutes and societies based in London.

Tallow Chandlers' Company

Mr D.G. Milne, Master of the Tallow Chandlers' Company, presented the Tallow Chandlers Awards to City and Guilds Diploma of Vocational Education students at a luncheon held yesterday at Tallow Chandlers' Hall. Mr Paul Wates, Chairman of City and Guilds of London Institute, was among those present.

Carmen's Company

Mr E.R. Britt, Master of the Carmen's Company, assisted by Mr M.E.G. Taylor, Senior Warden, and Mr G. Golder, Junior Warden, presided at a court luncheon held yesterday at Haberdashers' Hall. Sir Neil Thorne and Mr S. Jones also spoke.

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I kneel in prayer to the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name, that out of the treasures of his glory he may grant you inward strength and power through his Spirit.
Ephesians 3:14,15 (REB)

BIRTHS

ARBISMAN - On January 21st at The Portland Hospital, to Isabel (née Katz) and Laurie, a beautiful new daughter, Emma Darcy, a lovely sister for Chloe.

BASILE - On January 21st at the Wellington Hospital, to David and MaryEllen, a son, Matthew Christian, a brother for Nicholas.

BLAIR - On January 4th, to Diana (née Scrivener) and Michael, a son, Michael Jack Scrivener (Jack), a brother for Samantha, Mikki, Siobhan and Caroline.

BLESSLEY - See Young.

CAPPS - On 24th January 1994, to Penelope (née McArdle) and David, a beautiful daughter, Isabelle Felicity.

CHRISTOPHERSON - On January 24th at The Portland Hospital, to Susan (née Phillips) and Kenneth, a beautiful son, Alexander James (10lbs 13½oz).

COLE - On January 20th, to Louise (née Bankes) and Haydn, a son, Oscar Alexander.

GILLESPIE - On January 23rd 1994 at Hemel Hempstead General Hospital, to Helen (née Hatch) and Stephen, a daughter, Sybil Monique.

HAMILTON-RUSSELL - On January 25th, to Lucy and Tavie, a daughter, Emelia Rose.

MERISON - On January 25th, to Victoria (née Gladstone) and Hugo, a daughter, Elinor Penelope.

MOORE - On Sunday 23rd January 1994, to Jason and Emma (née Lawes), a son, Redd George. First grandchild on both sides.

PRITCHARD - On 24th January, in Chichester, to Steve and Gaby (née Klimm), a beautiful daughter, Katie.

SIDEBOTTOM - On 15th January at Awali, Bahrain, to Stephen and Kate (née Walder), a daughter, Alexandra Lucy Domenica.

STAFFORD - On January 25th at the Wellington Hospital, to Maria and Michael, a beautiful daughter Elizabeth Alexandra, a special little person.

SUNNUCKS - On 14th January to Lucinda and John, a daughter, Miranda, a sister for Isabel.

WHITLEY - On 25th January 1994, to Sarah (née Futty) and George, a son, Thomas Alexander, a brother for Isabel.

WITHERS GREEN - On 19th January 1994, to Alison (née Kellett) and Stephen, a daughter, Katherine, a sister for Joseph.

YOUNG - On 18th January in Los Angeles, to Gillian (née Blessley) and George, a son, Adrian Charles.

DEATHS

ARTHUR - Roy Philip, beloved husband of Diana died suddenly on Friday 21st January 1994. Requiem Mass at Marychurch, Old Hatfield, Herts, on Friday 28th January at 11.45 am. Cremation private. No flowers. Donations if desired to Greenacres Elderly Peoples Home c/o J.J. Burgess & Sons, Alfred House, The Common, Herts, AL10 0ND tel: 0707-262122.

BIGLAND - Richard aged 56 years who died most tragically on January 20th 1994 in a light aircraft accident, returning home on one of his happiest days. Dearest husband, helpmate and best friend of Kate. A wonderfully loving, encouraging and indulgent father to his most beloved sons, John, Daniel and Matthew. Most precious and irreplaceable guardian of our happy family. Dear brother of Sarah-Anne and Anthony. Most dearly loved son-in-law of Ma and special friend of so many. Taken from this earth when he loved his life to the full and recognised all of its blessings. Such fun to be with. Nothing, darling, can ever diminish our beautiful memories. Gratitudo. Richard will be buried at 2pm on Friday 4th February 1994 at St Luke's Church, Baldwin, Isle of Man. Any flowers or other enquiries to Eric Faragher Ltd., 6 Main Road, Onchan, Isle of Man, telephone: (0624) 673109 or 622897. A Memorial Service will be held for him in Haverthwaite, Cumbria, in the Spring.

COLLINS - Vere, on January 25th, aged 77, at home, loved husband of Marian, father of Jonathan and Julia, grandfather of Jade, Jessie and Jamie. Service of Thanksgiving at 12 noon on Monday January 31st at St Mary's Westwell.

CUNNINGHAM - On 25th January 1994, peacefully after a brave fight, Charles John, FRIBA (retd), aged 78. Much loved husband of Ann Sara (née Mann), loving father of Sara, Clare, Alec and Edward and proud grandfather of Christopher, Simon, Max, Camilla, Ivo and James. Cremation private. Burial of ashes at Maxton, Roxburghshire, at 12 noon on Wednesday 2nd February, to which Scottish relations and friends welcome. Thanksgiving Service at Sandford St Martin Church, Oxon., at 12 noon on Friday 4th February. All welcome. No flowers, no mourning by his request. Donations if desired for Katharine House Hospice c/o J & M Humphris, Albert Street, Banbury OX16 8DG.

DOYLE - Éamonn James on 24th January 1994 in Brussels, peacefully after a long illness. Dearly loved husband of Rosemary and beloved father of Sinéad and Dominic. Funeral Service at St Antony's, Kraainem, Brussels, on Saturday 29th January at 1.30 pm. Family flowers only.

EDGINGTON - On 25th January 1994, Peter Morse Comyn aged 83. Husband of the late Phyllis Margaret and father of Sarah Delfont. Private cremation. Service of Thanksgiving at 11 am on Friday 18th February at The Grosvenor Chapel, 24 South Audley Street, London W1. No flowers please, but donations if wished by cheque payable to Great Ormond Street Childrens Hospital Fund and sent to Great Ormond Street, London WC1N 1HZ. A very special friend deeply loved by us all.

GILLINGHAM - On 25th January 1994, peacefully in the Princess Royal Hospital, Haywards Heath, Roy, aged 48 years. Much loved husband and father. Funeral Service to be held on Monday 31st January at the Surrey and Sussex Crematorium, Worth at 11.30 am. Flowers, or donations to the Cardiac Rehabilitation Trust Fund at Princess Royal Hospital may be sent c/o Masters & Son, 4 Denmans Lane, Lindfield, W. Sussex RH16 2LB.

LAMBOLL - On 25th January, suddenly but very peacefully, in his sleep, Alan Seymour, aged 70, at his home in the Algarve. Deeply loved and missed by Jonathan and all his many friends.

MACNAMARA - On January 24th at home suddenly while tending his garden, Brigadier Playford (Pat) Rawdon D.S.O. late of Q.V.O. Corps of Guides Indian Army, aged 91. Greatly loved by 3 generations of family and friends. Funeral private. Thanksgiving Service at 2.30pm on Wednesday February 2nd. Further Memorial Service in London to be announced later. No flowers please but any donations to the Winged Fellowship Trust, Angel House, Pentonville Road, London N1 9XD.

MARRINER - On January 25th, peacefully, at the Manor Cheshire Home, Brampton, Cambs., Stephen John (Steve). Dearly loved son of Pamela and the late John Marriner, and much loved brother of Elisabeth and Benjamin and a favourite uncle. Requiem Mass on Monday January 31st at 2 pm at the Church of the Sacred Heart, Southwold, followed by private burial at St Benet's Minster, Beccles. No letters please and family flowers only but donations if so desired for the Huntingtons Disease Association c/o Fishers (Southwold) Ltd., Field Stile Road, Southwold IP18 6LD.

MILNER - On January 24th, Donald Rigby, much loved husband of Anne, father of Rupert, Kit, Catherine and Lawrence and grandfather of David and Alice, after a brave fight against illness. Funeral Service at the Church of St John Evangelist, Taynton, near Burford, at midday on Tuesday February 1st. Family flowers only please, but donations if desired to Ward 5E, John Radcliffe Hospital, Headington, Oxford OX3 9DU.

MORAN - On January 24th 1994, peacefully in the Kent and Sussex Hospital, Tunbridge Wells, Thomas, aged 89 years. Retired Kennel Huntsman to The Bolebroke Beagles for many years. Loving husband of Kate and dear father of Kathleen and devoted grandfather. Service to be held at St Thomas of Canterbury Church, Sevenoaks, on Friday February 4th at 11 am, followed by cremation at Tunbridge Wells. Enquiries to Francis Chappell & Sons (0732) 460203.

NAPIER-MUNN - On January 25th at the Royal Berks. Hospital, John Charles William, much loved husband of Elisabeth, dear father of Tim, Simon and Tamsin and grandfather, will be sadly missed by his family and friends. Funeral Service at St Mary's Church, Whitchurch-on-Thames, on Tuesday 1st February at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to St Mary's P.C.C., Whitchurch. Enquiries to C.H. Lovegrove (0734) 461393.

O'CONNELL - On January 21st, in California, Joseph aged 66, husband of Patricia and son-in-law of the late Film Director, Alfred Hitchcock. Donations, if desired, to Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, 2150 Town Center Place, Suite 120 Anaheim 92805, California, USA.

PEARCE - On January 25th 1994, in Edinburgh, aged 89 years, John Dalziel Wyndham Pearce, MA, MD, FRCP (EDIN), FRCP (LOND), FRC (PSYCH), DPM. Formerly Physician in charge, Departments of Psychiatry, St Mary's Hospital, Paddington. The Queen Elizabeth Hospital for children (Institute of Child Health), Royal Masonic Hospital, Physician, The Tavistock Clinic (Trustee T.I.M.P.), Director, Portman Clinic (I.S.T.D.) and Consultant in Psychiatry, RAMC. Dear husband of Elizabeth. Funeral private. A Memorial Service will be held in London later.

PRICE - At the Derby City General Hospital on 24th January 1994, Susan Anne (née Walter), wife of Dr. Hugh Price and much loved mother of William, Juliet, Matthew and Thomas, mother-in-law of Alison, Simon, Sandra and Lorraine, grandmother of Daniel, Joseph, Grace and Gabriella. Funeral Wednesday 2nd February, service 12.15 pm at Markeaton Crematorium, Derby. Family flowers only please by her own request.

REID - Robert Laurence (Bob). Requiem Mass to be held at St John's Roman Catholic Cathedral, Norwich, on Friday February 4th at 10am, followed by interment. Family flowers only please, donations to Well's Lifeboat or the Night Shelter may be sent c/o Peter Taylor Funeral Services, 86 Unthank Road, Norwich, NR2 2PE.

RIESCO - Eleanor Mary (Mollie) on 25th January 1994, peacefully, at King Edward VII Hospital, Midhurst. Much loved by Michael, Jane, Philip and all her family. Funeral private, no flowers. Donations if desired to King Edward VII Hospital (COPD Fund) Midhurst, GU29 0BL.

SHARPE - On 24th January, Lady Mary Millicent, aged 84, wife of Sir Reginald Taaffe Sharpe QC. Funeral Service at Eastbourne Crematorium Wednesday 2nd February 10.45 am. Flowers or donations to Cancer Research Campaign c/o R. Butler & Sons, 5 Station Road, Hailsham, East Sussex, tel: (0323) 840086.

SPYER - Rachael Isabella. On 26th January, wife of the late Gerald Spyer. Firm in her beliefs, resolute in her understanding. Private cremation.

STACK - On January 26th 1994, peacefully at The Royal Marsden Hospital, Air Chief Marshal Sir Neville Stack, KCB, CVO, CBE, AFC, RAF (retd), aged 74. Beloved husband of Jenny and much loved father of Andrew and Georgie. Private funeral. Family flowers only. Details of the Thanksgiving Service will be announced later. Donations, if desired, to the R.A.F. Benevolent Fund, 67 Portland Place, London W1N 4AR.

TAIT - On 25th January 1994, peacefully at Taunton, James Norriss Tait, formerly of St Margarets Bay. Funeral at Taunton Deane Crematorium, on Monday 31st January at 11.30 am. Flowers or donations to Artists General Benevolent c/o Leonard E. Smith, Funeral Directors, 1 Haydon Road, Taunton.

WERNLY - A.E. (Tim) O.B.E. Born 5th September 1920 in London, died suddenly in Madeira on Sunday 16th January. Funeral at 11 am on 2nd February 1994 in the Swedish Church, 6 Harcourt Street, W1. Flowers welcome or contributions to Cancer Fund. Reception at Church but please confirm if attending tel: 071-723 5681. Private burial. Thanks for a wonderful and thoughtful husband and thanks for support from his numerous friends. Margareta.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

EARLE - A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Colonel Peter Earle MC DL will be held on Tuesday 1st February at St George's Hanover Square at 12 noon.

LUCK - Dick. In Piam Memoriam, in Scaynes Hill Church at 10.45 am on Thursday 3rd February.

WIMBORNE - A Memorial Service for the life of The Right Honourable Ivor Fox-Strangways Guest, Viscount Wimborne, will be held at 11.30 am on Tuesday 15th March at St James's Church, Piccadilly.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

BEATTIE - Peter Christopher, with dearest love today and always.

KRAAY - Colin Mackennal, 27th January 1982. "But the world shall be ended ere I forget". Peggy.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

USA SUMMER JOBS - ranches, resorts etc. Directory listing 20,000 jobs in WH Smith etc. at £9.95 or from Vac Work, 9 Park End St, Oxford.

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LETTINGS NEGOTIATOR Ruck & Ruck See todays appointments section

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PUBLIC NOTICES

ARCHER, PETER ARCHER late of Peckham, London SE15 died there on 11 June 1993
(Estate about £5,300)
BARRAND formerly TANSLEY nee BATES, EMILY BARRAND formerly TANSLEY nee BATES WIDOW late of Leeds, West Yorkshire died there on 27 September 1993
(Estate about £5,300)
BATEUP, EDMUND JAMES BATEUP otherwise EDWARD JAMES BATEUP late of Croydon, Surrey died at Tooting, London SW17 on 27 September 1992
(Estate about £25,000)
BROOKS, ALFRED GEORGE BROOKS late of Great Yarmouth, Norfolk died there on 28 March 1993
(Estate about £36,000)
BURNS, BARRIE BURNS late of East Dulwich, London SE22 died there on 27 January 1992
(Estate about £7,000)
BYRNE, MARY AGNES BYRNE SPINSTER late of El Altillo, Jerez de la Frontera, Spain died there on 30 September 1971
(Estate about £2,000)
COOK, IVY LILIAN COOK SPINSTER late of Watford, Hertfordshire died there on 8 June 1992
(Estate about £9,000)
GREEN, MAURICE ROBERT GREEN otherwise MORRIS ROBERT GREEN late of Leamington Spa, Warwickshire died there on 7 January 1993
(Estate about £5,000)
HUNTER, EDWARD CHAPMAN ASHDOWN HUNTER late of Hornsey, London N8 died at Highgate, London N19 on 10 April 1993
(Estate about £7,000)
MANN, DESMOND RANDALL MANN late of Rothley, Leicestershire died there on 23 October 1992
(Estate about £100,000)
MANSI otherwise CUNNINGHAM, RITA CATHERINE ELIZABETH MANSI otherwise ELIZABETH MANSI otherwise ELIZABETH CUNNINGHAM SPINSTER late of Paddington, London W2 died there on 7 September 1991
(Estate about £7,740)
SCOTT formerly SIMPSON nee ROWLANDS, ENA EDITH SCOTT otherwise ENA SCOTT formerly SIMPSON nee ROWLANDS WIDOW late of Battersea, London SW11 died there on 28 December 1992
(Estate about £10,000)
SELNER, PHYLLIS LILIAN SELNER otherwise PHYLLIS SELNER SPINSTER late of Camden, London NW3 died there on 21 November 1992
(Estate about £8,000)
The kin of the above-named are requested to apply to the Treasury Solicitor (B.V.), Queen Anne's Chambers, 28 Broadway, London SW1H 9JS, failing which the Treasury Solicitor may take steps to administer the estate.

OBITUARIES

MAJOR-GENERAL RICHARD JELF

Major-General Richard William Jelf, CBE, Commandant of the Police College at Bramshill, 1957-63, died on January 22 aged 89. He was born on June 16, 1904.



DICK JELF was a mountain of a man — 6ft 3ins tall and weighing over 17 stone — with a genial personality, a bluff and florid appearance and a great sense of integrity and patriotism, stemming from the Jelf family's two centuries of service in the judiciary, Church and Army. He believed in leading from the front, was a speaker of great sincerity and an able administrator.

After a long and successful military career, he was selected as the Commandant of the Police College, Ryton-on-Dunsmore, which was moved to Bramshill during his tenure. He held the appointment for six years, which coincided with the unhappy period in police history when the prosecution of three chief constables — those of Brighton, Southend and Worcester — led to the Royal Commission on the Police, 1960-62.

Jelf was the second son of Sir Ernest Jelf, Senior Master of the Supreme Court and King's Remembrancer. He was educated at Cheltenham College and the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, and was commissioned into the Royal Artillery in 1924. His early service was with the 22nd Mountain Artillery Brigade on the North-West Frontier of India, with which he saw action during the Loa Agra Campaign of 1935. A year later he was being instructed by the then Lieutenant-Colonel Bernard Montgomery at the Staff College, Quetta. When war broke out in 1939 he was back in England as a staff officer in the Military Training Directorate of the War Office.

In 1942 he became an instructor at the Staff College, Camberley, in the Minley Manor Division; and then GSO1 to 49th (West Riding) Division for the invasion of Normandy in June 1944. He was released to regimental duty in October that year to command the 102nd (Northumberland Hussars) Anti-Tank Regiment RA in time to take part in the autumn battles of the Rhineland, and the crossing of the Rhine, followed by the advance into Germany in the spring of 1945. Immediately after the war, he was appointed Military Governor of Cologne, a post that his cousin, Brigadier Wilfred Jelf, had held after the First World War. He was met at the station by Konrad Adenauer, who was then mayor of the city.

After the war he held no fewer than six staff and command appointments as a brigadier before being appointed Chief of Staff to Eastern Command as a major-general. He retired from the Army in 1957 and was looking for a second career when his second son, who was a serving policeman and later rose to the rank of chief superintendent, drew his attention to an advertisement for the post of Commandant of the Police College, then at Ryton-on-Dunsmore, for which he applied and was selected.

This was the second time an Army officer rather than a senior policeman had been appointed to the post; in addition, the brilliance and popularity of his predecessor, the college's first Commandant, Brigadier P. D. W. Dunn, made him a difficult man to follow. It fell to Jelf to execute the college's move (partly planned by Dunn, who had died in harness) to its present location at Bramshill, where it has become the national seat of police learning.

After completing the move, his main task was to set in hand the revision of the college's courses and their content in order to improve the training and selection of future senior police officers in line with the thinking of the Royal Commission. During his time, the Johnson Scheme for accelerated promotions, not dissimilar to the Sandhurst courses, and the Senior Commanders' Course, on the lines of the Army Staff College, were established.

Having known Sandhurst well and instructed at the Staff College, Jelf had a significant personal contribution to make. He achieved progress through consensus, which enabled him to neutralise opposition. Nevertheless, he remained a soldier at heart, sensibly allowing those who knew the police requirements better than he did to get on with the job without undue interference.

He is remembered at Bramshill, where his portrait hangs in a place of honour, for the way he toured his domain, escorted by his large Old English Sheep Dog, which — dog like master — mirrored his personality and appearance; and for his full-throated rendering of "Land of Hope and Glory" after the port during college guest nights. When he retired in 1963 he could be satisfied that enduring foundations for the new Police College had been laid.

His active career was far from over. He was appointed director of Civil Defence for the Southern Region from 1963 to 1967; and then, retiring to Lyme Regis to indulge his life-long love of sailing, he became the honorary secretary of the local RNLI for 14 years. He retired finally in 1986 after 62 years of continuous public service.

A devoted family man, he married Nowell, daughter of Major Sampson-Way, Royal Marines, of Henbury, Gloucestershire, in 1928. They had three sons and a daughter. In 1951, he, his wife and most of his family became Roman Catholics. They all survive him.

PROFESSOR WILLIAM HAYES

Professor William Hayes, FRS, microbiologist and molecular geneticist, died on January 7 aged 80. He was born in Co Dublin on January 18, 1913.



BILL HAYES made three major contributions to biology. First, in 1952 he elucidated the mechanism of bacterial sexuality and discovered the sex factor F of *Escherichia coli*. These discoveries profoundly affected the course of molecular biology. Secondly, he wrote an outstanding book, *The Genetics of Bacteria and their Viruses* (1964), which influenced generations of scientists. Thirdly, in London and later in Edinburgh, he created particularly open and supportive research environments.

William Hayes was an only child; his father died when he was five and he then lived with his mother and grandmother, and was educated at home. His solitary upbringing may have contributed to the independence of mind that he showed later. After a distinguished undergraduate career at Trinity College, Dublin, he qualified in medicine in 1937 and was then appointed as an assistant lecturer in bacteriology at Trinity.

A refugee from Germany, Professor Hans Sachs, introduced Hayes to serological research. In 1941 Hayes joined the RAMC, serving in India and rising to the rank of major.

Some of his work was on penicillin, which had been made available to the Army. He also first developed his interest in bacterial genetics through his studies on antigenic phase variation in *Salmonella*. In 1947 he was appointed lecturer in bacteriology at Trinity, but moved to the Postgraduate Medical School at Hammersmith Hospital in 1950.

Bacterial sexuality (conjugation) had first been described by J. Lederberg and F. Tatum in *E.coli* in 1946. In plants and animals, the genetic contributions of the male and female gametes to the zygote are essentially similar, and attempts to understand conjugation by the Lederbergs and their colleague L. Cavalli-Sforza were based on the economical premise that also in bacteria the two mating cells were equal partners. This led to complex explanations for the actual results. Hayes first showed that the viability of one of the parent strains was not necessary, and interpreted this as evidence for a donor and a recipient.

This work and other observations led him to the revolutionary hypothesis that maleness was determined by a transmissible factor, and showed that this was indeed true: that is, maleness was infectious. This conclusion was arrived at independently by the Lederbergs and Cavalli-Sforza, with whom Hayes freely exchanged views.

Hayes also introduced another novel assumption, namely that only part of the donor's genetic material was transferred: that is, that the genetic contributions of the two partners were unequal. In the words of J. D. Watson, in *The Double Helix*, "given this assumption, further reasoning was infinitely simpler". In 1952 Hayes attended a small meeting on microbial genetics in Italy.

Again, in the words of Watson, who was present: "Bill's appearance was the sleeper of the three-day meeting; before his talk no one except Cavalli-Sforza knew he existed. As soon as he had finished his unassuming report, however, everyone in the audience knew that a bombshell had exploded . . ."

As a result, Hayes was invited by M. Delbruck to talk to the 1953 Cold Spring Harbor meeting at which Watson and Crick's structure of DNA was presented, and then to visit the California Institute of Technology. While there he initiated the first experiments on interrupted matings. This fruitful line, partly then in collaboration with F. Jacob and E. Wollman in Paris, led directly to the proof of unidirectional transfer and the circularity of the genetic map by Jacob and Wollman.

F is the archetype of plasmids, minichromosomes that are ubiquitous in bacterial populations. They confer many properties such as antibiotic resistance, pathogenicity and the ability to degrade man-made pollutants, and have a major role in allowing bacterial populations to evolve rapidly in response to novel situations. They also became essential tools for genetic engineering.

In 1957 the Medical Research Council created a unit around him, and he brought together a group of independently-minded yet interactive staff and graduate students and a stream of visitors. For several years they mounted courses in microbial genetics that ensured that the new ideas were widely propagated. Staff from the unit went to new Chairs in a number of other universities.

Hayes's book made his name known to an even wider audience. Coming so soon after the heroic decade of molecular biology from 1952 to 1962, it became a best-seller. A particular feature of the book was its exceptional lucidity; another was its emphasis on actual experimental design, a hallmark of Hayes's style.

This same desire to communicate to a wider audience was one reason why in 1968 the unit joined Martin Pollock's group from the National Institute for Medical Research, Mill Hill, in Britain's first University Department of Molecular Biology, at Edinburgh. Together with Pollock he again built up an exceptional environment for science.

Hayes had been elected a fellow of the Royal Society in 1964 and president of the Genetical Society in 1971. He also received honorary degrees from Leicester, National University of Ireland, Kent and Trinity, Dublin. However, he was unhappy about his burden of administrative and committee work and in 1974 he moved to the Australian National University as Professor of Genetics, and resumed experimental work, latterly as visiting fellow (1980-1986).

In 1941 Bill Hayes married Honora (Nora) Lee, who nursed him through his final years of illness and who survives him, together with their son.

JAMES BOYCE

James Boyce, Labour MP for Rotherham since the 1992 general election, died on January 25 aged 46. He was born on September 6, 1947.



JIMMY BOYCE always considered himself lucky to secure the nomination for the safe Labour seat of Rotherham at a fiercely contested selection conference but he was unlucky to develop serious respiratory problems which continued throughout his short membership of the House. A serious heart condition was discovered at the end of last year and he was due to receive a new heart as soon as a donor became available. He died, however, while waiting for surgery at a Sheffield hospital.

When Stanley Crowther, its MP since a by-election in 1976, decided not to fight Rotherham again, there was naturally considerable competition to succeed him in the safe Labour seat. Boyce, supported by his own union, the engineers, was chosen by the narrowest possible majority over a candidate backed by the iron and steel workers. Boyce's subsequent election for Rotherham, where unemployment stood at more than 16 per cent, was almost a formality and the Labour majority increased to 17,561.

James Boyce was born in Paisley, attended St Mirren's Academy and later took courses at Sheffield University. He remained a Scottish Labour fundamentalist with the earthy vocabulary of the shopfloor which he did not hesitate to use from conference platforms. At one point he was overtly sympathetic to Militant but he later distanced himself as he judged that Militant's influence was becoming increasingly damaging to his party.

He spent most of his working career as an engineer in Sheffield foundries but the decline of the steel industry resulted in his redundancy and he became a travel assistant. Besides his union work — he held many offices and at one point was deputy president of Sheffield AEU — he became a prominent member of Sheffield City Council. He served as chairman of the operational services committee and was deputy chairman of the Labour group.

He had little opportunity to make a name for himself in the Commons but his maiden speech, one of the first of the new Parliament, contained a robust attack on the Thatcher and Major governments and had none of the non-controversial qualities which such speeches used to have. He was unlikely ever to set the Thames on fire but he had become popular in Rotherham during the time he represented the constituency.

His first marriage, by which he had two sons, was dissolved. He recently married Barbara Roxburgh, a member of Rotherham Labour Party.

HEATHER SEARS

Heather Sears, stage and screen actress, died on January 3 aged 58. She was born in Whitechapel on September 28, 1935.



With Laurence Harvey in *Room at the Top*, 1958

SOME actors, however excellent, seem fated never to be quite where the spotlight decisively hits. Heather Sears was one of them. Lee Patterson, used to tell of escorting his co-stars, Heather Sears and Joan Crawford, to the première of *The Story of Esther Costello*, the film which was expected to make Heather Sears a star. Once past the battery of cameras at the door, they relaxed as they went up the stairs, Crawford in the centre. Then suddenly a camera flashed out of nowhere.

When Patterson saw the pictures he was amazed, because in that split second Crawford had arranged herself to be looking up romantically at him, while her other hand, in a dramatic gesture, had managed to place her handbag right in front of Heather Sears's face. Of course, that takes an old-time star's technique — but Heather Sears unfortunately all-too-often ended up with the handbag in front of her face.

She was, in fact, very good in *Esther Costello*, where she played a blind deaf mute, who is nearly raped. Yet everyone remembers it as a Joan Crawford movie. She was also fine in *Room at the Top*, where she plays the naive girl whom Laurence Harvey gets into trouble and has to marry. But it was the mature continental charms of Simone Signoret which carried the day on that occasion. And how many remember that she was even in *Sons and Lovers*, though on television her quiet, understated performance as D. H. Lawrence's Miriam still rings true.

Heather Sears was of a similar type and generation to the young Mary Ure and Claire Bloom. She was trained at the Central School of Speech and Drama. Her elder sister Ann was also an actress (her moment of glory in films was playing the only noticeable female role in *The Bridge on the River Kwai*), and Heather began promisingly in a traditional manner with rep at Windsor in 1955 and an *ingénue* role in the knockabout comedy film *Dry Rot* in 1956. Before she turned 22 she had played the key title role in *The Story of Esther Costello* and taken over Mary Ure's part in the first non-repertory run of *Look Back in Anger* at the Royal Court; shortly afterwards she played Claire Bloom's role in the television production of *Ring Round the Moon*.

Playing the kind of dewy-innocent Anouilh specialised in is obviously the prerogative of very young actresses, but her Alison in the Osborne play seemed to promise more fibre than was immediately apparent. This quality also underlay her playing of the victim in *Room at the Top* (1958) — the character is vulnerable but in her own way determined — and of Miriam in *Sons and Lovers* (1960). But subsequently she was not very lucky with film casting: the heroine of *The Phantom of the Opera* (the Hammer version of 1962 with Herbert Lom in the title role) does not have much to do but suffer and scream prettily, and the same goes for young women involved in films like *The Black Torment* (1964), after which her film career rather petered out.

However, she had the stage to fall back on during the later 1960s and 1970s. She had a considerable success as Grusha in *The Caucasian Chalk Circle* at the Chichester Festival in 1969, a role she later reprised in the course of a season starring at the Haymarket, Leicester, in 1973-74, which also included a revival of her other big stage success, Alan Ayckbourn's *How the Other Half Loves*, in which she had originally played at the Lyric in 1970.

Subsequently she acted less frequently and retired more into private life, in which she was married to the author Tony Masters. It was less than a decade centre stage, but strongly suggested the existence of qualities in her which never fully came into play.

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THE TIMES

CHESS CHAMPIONS.

(From a Correspondent.)

Modern masters may be divided into three classes. In the first place there are the combinationists, the posterity of Morphy, whose chief strength lies in the ingenuity of their king's side attack. They will even sacrifice material in order to maintain and press home such direct onslaughts, and it often happens that the position laboriously built up by an opponent of the Vienna school, the posterity of Steinitz, crumbles away under their sledge-hammer blows. Morphy was the greatest of the combinationists, and none of his successors has ever surpassed his far-sighted sacrificial attacks: in complex positions, where there is no time in actual play to analyse every possible variation, he could see a move or two further than the masters who, during his brief career (1857-9), were able to meet him in America, England, and France. Tschigorin, Blackburne, Bird, Pillsbury, Marshall, Janowski, and the Prince Dadian of Mingrelia are among the most famous and most successful of the combinationists, and two of these celebrities of the past and present, *Pillsbury and Blackburne, were little, if at all,* inferior to the American prodigy in the production of sacrificial splendours. Bird, the chess-player's chess-player (as Spenser is called "the poet's poet"), was in many respects the most remarkable of the masters of combination. He detested a safe, commonplace game and would indulge in the wildest eccentricities to avoid it. His love of the bizarre and the humorous often caused him to lose a won game, and he never achieved the highest honours in a great tournament. But he produced games of an uncanny, almost diabolical, brilliance at times . . .

Secondly, there are the disciples of Steinitz, a numerous band, who invariably win more prizes in open tournaments than the combinationists. Their plan is to secure a well-balanced development, to create a structure without a weak point against which the enemy's attack can be profitably directed, and to win rather by the minute errors of the opposition than by the exercise of their own enterprise and initiative. They shine especially in the management of their pawns, preparing for the far-off end-game in which the possession of a majority of pawns on the side remote from the castled kings or the isolation of one of the opponent's central pawns may mean victory, evaded for a long while but inevitable in the end. Steinitz was the founder of their school and the first master to justify, both in theory and by practice, the scientific principles of position play. An American critic once expressed the opinion that "Morphy would have gone through one of Steinitz's wriggling retreats like a locomotive" . . .

The third and smallest class of master-players is that of the universal men, who are both combinationists and constructionists. Anderssen certainly belonged to this class; so did Staunton and Zukertort in their prime; so does Dr. Lasker, the present world's champion, who has won matches against members of the first and second classes. Many of the games in his great match with Dr. Tarrasch illustrate the superiority of the all-round master over the constructionist genius . . .

ON THIS DAY

January 27 1910

In the 19th century the chess article appeared at irregular intervals, later more often, and eventually, weekly. The first chess correspondent was Samuel Tinsley from 1893-1903.

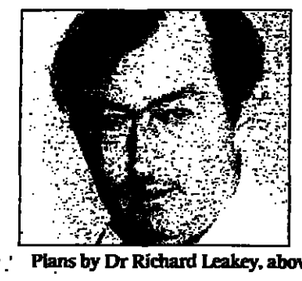
● Animal row in Africa ● Insect war annoys passengers ● Tailoring flights

Hoteliers wild about Dr Leakey

BY SAM KILEY AND MARIANNE CURPHEY



REX FEATURES



Plans by Dr Richard Leakey, above, to erect fences to protect fauna are worrying Masai tribesmen, who fear their way of life will be destroyed

MORE THAN 1,000 Kenyan hoteliers, travel agents and tour operators have launched a last-ditch campaign to stop the resignation of Dr Richard Leakey, the wildlife conservationist.

They have warned President Daniel arap Moi — who will decide soon whether to accept the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) director's decision to quit — that, if he goes, the country could see a catastrophic fall in visitors as poaching once again destroys many of Kenya's remaining rhinos and elephants.

"We believe that Dr Leakey's departure, and the fall-out it would cause, runs a very high risk of enfeebling KWS and greatly eroding global confidence in Kenya's commitment to wildlife and tourism," they said in a joint statement.

The industry earns 40 per cent of Kenya's foreign exchange and caters for about 700,000 tourists a year. Their views are echoed by the World Bank, the World Wide Fund for Nature, tour operators around the world and the British and American governments.

Declan Morton, overseas manager for tour operators Hayes & Jarvis, which takes 13,000 British holidaymakers to Kenya each year, said: "There is a real risk that if Dr Leakey goes, poaching will increase and that would undermine the stability of the game parks and could pose a safety risk to visitors."

In a separate move, the International Federation of Tour Operators has this week written to President Moi warning that not only will tourism be damaged, but Kenya's image as a protector of wildlife will be dealt a severe blow.

Dr Leakey came under attack for alleged "corruption and racism" from government ministers and Masai tribesmen, who said his policies of protecting wild animals with fencing where necessary could destroy the tribe's ancient way of life. Dr Leakey has said that fencing is "probably inevitable", but the concept, which could create a series of animal "theme parks", may prove to be his undoing.

The public vilification of Dr Leakey was led by William ole Ntimama, the powerful Masai minister of local government. Mr Ntimama's attacks on Dr Leakey have, however, horrified many other Kenyans, who have accused politicians of wanting Dr Leakey out so they can lay their hands on some of the £53 million that flows into the KWS kitty each year. Should they succeed, it is argued, the flood of Western tourists — who have enabled the game parks to be turned into areas that are havens for animals but where poachers are shot on sight — will dry up and with it the £96 million in Western aid pledged over the next five years.

However, 25 local councils also want Dr Leakey out. Dr David Western, Wildlife Conservation International head in Kenya, said: "Dr Leakey's belief in the inevitability of fenced game parks and in getting funding from overseas donors has meant that he has ignored the role local people can play in the conservation of wildlife. The only way it will survive is if they perceive wild animals as valuable resources to the community, rather than as dangerous pests."

Only 5 per cent of wild animals live in parks run by KWS. Another 15 per cent live in reserves, such as the Masai Mara, which are run by county councils. All the rest live on private land, mainly the group ranches run as co-operatives by tribal elders.

Mr Ntimama has been able to harness the rage of Masai landowners bordering game parks whose land is grazed by wildlife. Their "shambas" (small farms) are trampled by elephants and they occasionally get killed by lions and elephants. "We, the Masai, have always lived alongside the wild animals," Mr Ntimama said. "We are natural conservationists because we are hunters; we do not eat game meat. But now we hate the wild animals."

Since the Leakey controversy exploded, locals have bloodily displayed their frustration: three elephants were shot dead by Mara rangers when they killed one of the ranger's fathers.

When Dr Leakey took over as wildlife supremo in 1989, Kenya's wildlife department was riddled with corruption, its own rangers had become poachers, and once-plentiful rhino and elephants were on the endangered list. Dr Leakey has since turned his rangers into a slick anti-poaching force. Graft has been stamped out, game park roads improved and rhino and elephant numbers are climbing.

His punishing work schedule — which continued after he lost both legs in a plane crash in June last year — and his brilliant international public relations campaigning, have also resulted in $300 million worth of donations and funding to KWS, spread over a decade.

Argument over airline spraying

BY HARVEY ELLIOTT

THE routine spraying of insecticide in aircraft cabins could be seriously damaging the health of millions of airline passengers, according to a growing body of official opinion in America.

The Department of Transportation in Washington DC has started a campaign to persuade more than 20 countries to drop their demands that airlines spray cabins before landing and take-off. It claims that the spray — *d*-phenothrin, commonly sold in America as Black Knight Roach Killer — is more harmful than the insects and bugs that it is designed to eradicate.

A spokesman for the department said: "The Environmental Protection Agency is taking a fresh look at this whole area. Passengers, especially those with respiratory problems, could be seriously affected. The airlines should at least tell people in advance that they are likely to be sprayed before arriving in certain countries. It could be that once they know, they might even change their vacation plans."

British Airways said that spraying before landing is stipulated in regulations drawn up by the World Health Organisation (WHO). A BA spokesman said: "The regulations are not open to negotiation. Health officials of countries that require spraying can inspect the empty cartridges to ensure that they have been used fully. Our staff must also spray in the holds and wheel wells before take-off.

"We always try to warn passengers so that those with contact lenses can cover their eyes and those with respiratory problems can hold a handkerchief to their nose. The idea is that any insects which may be trapped in people's clothing or in the aircraft furnishings are destroyed."

Countries that routinely require in-flight spraying include Australia, New Zealand, Argentina, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Peru, Colombia, Venezuela, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Guatemala, Panama, Mexico, Antigua, Barbados, Jamaica and St Lucia. The United States ended the routine spraying of cabin interiors in 1979, along with the United Kingdom, although both still require that aircraft leaving some countries with malaria-carrying mosquitoes are sprayed before take-off.

The *d*-phenothrin spray is especially produced, usually under licence in Japan, for its low toxicity. However, a growing number of complaints to America's Environmental Protection Agency, from passengers and cabin crew, has reopened the debate over the safety of the insecticide.

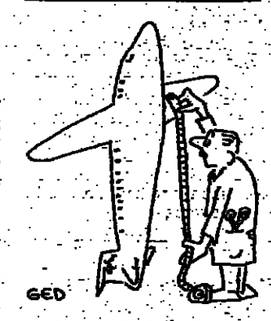
Manufacturers insist that the spray is perfectly safe to use. Airlines are, however, recommended to turn off the ventilation system before using the spray which, it is claimed, enhances its effect. Passengers and cabin crew have complained to the EPA that the spray has caused headaches, nausea, fatigue, seizures and, in some cases, memory loss.

The WHO, which is based in Geneva, argues that air travel is now so rapid that disease-carrying insects can be carried from one part of the world to another and be completely unaffected by the voyage. An official said: "If such insects find on arrival a climate of heat and humidity, they can bite, transmitting their parasites to humans. WHO therefore calls for compulsory treatment of all aircraft making stop-overs in countries where diseases are transmitted by airborne insects."

Flights to suit

WHEN Virgin Atlantic's daily flights to Hong Kong start next month, a Chinese tailor will be on board to take measurements for men's suits. The details will be faxed from the Airbus A340 to the factory and suits should be delivered before the travellers leave.

The in-flight service followed market research which showed that many businessmen, in Hong Kong for only three days on average, wanted to buy good-quality but cheap suits above all else while in the colony but often did not have the time.



GED

Holiday lessons

HEADWATER Holidays (0606 48699) is combining holidays in France with the chance to learn the language. Tuition is graded according to rustiness and takes place each morning, usually with a teacher who is French. Afternoons are taken up with accompanied local trips, and evenings, according to the brochure, are "for discovering regional wines and dishes in local restaurants". Prices for a seven-night holiday departing throughout February and including return travel, bed and breakfast and tuition start from £499 a person.

First steps

ONE hundred and fifty British skiers returned last week from what is said to be the first National Learn to Ski Week, organised by Airtours and the Austrian National Tourist Office (071-629 0461).

Airtours (0706 260000) provided a total package costing from £349. The course began with dry-slope lessons in Britain and ended in the Tyrolean resort of Kolsass Weer, near Innsbruck. If plans to repeat the programme next year.

Best beds

A 100-page edition of *Bed and Breakfast in the United States and Canada* has been published by Home Base Holidays (081-886 8752). It lists specialist agencies and accommodation in private homes and inns. Prices, including breakfast, are from about £40 for a double room.

Travel News is edited by Harvey Elliott

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THREE-NIGHT breaks at either the four-star Hotel Mundial in Lisbon or the five-star Hotel Palacio in Estoril are being offered from £175 a person, including return scheduled flights from Heathrow throughout February by Caravela Tours (071-630-9223), Portugal specialists.

☐ THREE cruises in one 23-night tour are available through ESCOA Cruises (0272-272273) from £2,999 a person. The fare includes flights, hotel accommodation and sightseeing. Three separate small ships take in an ecological cruise to the Barrier Reef, Fiji and the Yasawa islands in the Pacific and a trip up Thailand's Chao Phya River.

☐ GOING Places (061-477-6835), the newly formed travel-agency chain, has set up a special fares unit to negotiate low-cost, flight-only air fares. Among return-fare bargains from Heathrow are Paris for £80, Madrid £162, Orlando £195 and Boston £224.

☐ A 12-NIGHT holiday combining three nights at Dusit Thani in Bangkok and nine at the Dusit Laguna, Phuket, is available through Simply Tropix (081-875-1777) for £794. Departures are from Heathrow in May and June.

☐ GOLFERS have the chance to play the course at Turnberry, Scotland, venue for the Open Championship between March 1 and April 17. British Airways Holidays (0293-611311) is offering two nights, including flights and half-board accommodation from £338.

☐ CRYSTAL Holidays (081-399 5144) has availability in the French resorts of Val d'Isère, Tignes, Courchevel and Les Deux Alpes for next month's school half-term. Bed and breakfast, return flights and transfers cost from £199.

☐ FOUR HOTELS in Florence are being offered for four-night breaks through Citalia (071-584-7669) next month from £265 a person, including return flights.

☐ JETSET (061-953-0920), a long-haul specialist, is offering Valentine's weekend breaks to New York from £349, including return flights and four nights at the Wolcott Hotel.

Riding out of the recession

By Marianne Curphey

BLACKPOOL hopes to attract a million extra visitors this year as it celebrates the centenary of its famous tower and the opening of the largest roller-coaster in the world.

After having been refused assisted area status from the Government earlier this month, the resort is pinning its hopes on Festival 94 to bring in extra income.

The tower will be painted gold in April in preparation for the Queen's visit in July, and in May the world's tallest and fastest ride, built at a cost of £12 million, opens to the public. The roller-coaster, one mile long and with cars travelling on it at up to 85 mph, rises 235ft above the town.

In addition, Blackpool Council has launched a £300,000 scheme to rejuvenate the promenade and is inviting back celebrities who played in Blackpool during their careers.

Pleasure Beach, which is financing the roller-coaster, has joined forces with First Leisure, which owns the Blackpool Tower, and the council to market the town.

Pleasure Beach also runs the amusement park and reports the "best season" in 1993 with 6.7 million visitors, predicting a rise of 13 per cent this year. However, First Leisure reported a fall in profits for its resorts overall last year and says this was in part due to bad weather and to Blackpool beach's failure to meet EC environmental standards.

Blackpool's tourism department, which is being advised by Sir Bob Scott, who masterminded the Manchester Olympic bid, estimates visitors spent £150 million last year, the equivalent of about £20 a head, and promises 1994 will be "a blockbuster year".

The owners of small hotels and guest houses could certainly do with extra trade. John Donovan, secretary of the Blackpool Hotel and Guest House Association, says his 1,300 members have suffered from the effects of the recession since 1990. "It has been a hard three years," he says. "Most hoteliers have managed to struggle through but there have been one or two casualties."

He estimates trade has dropped by around 25 per cent since 1990: "The period when the illuminations are here used to be the icing on the cake for us, but now it constitutes our main trade, and the season does not really start until July."

Almost half of the 17.8 million visitors last year came during September, October and November to see the illuminations which are paid for by Blackpool borough council. They cost £1.8 million, but street collections and appeals to hoteliers and private companies raise only a tenth of that figure.

John Hall, a spokesman for the council's tourism department, says: "It is a huge amount out of our coffers every year, but it is so vital to Blackpool's prosperity that we have to continue with it even though we do not feel that we get enough back from private interests."

Mr Donovan adds: "The profile of visitors has gradually changed from long-stay holidaymakers to daytrippers, although we still get a lot of short-break tourists from Dublin, Belfast, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Dundee, Newcastle and the Midlands.

"We were upset that Blackpool failed to gain assisted area status, because the town is one of the unemployment blackspots of the north, with around 12 per cent of the working population unable to find jobs.

"Government grants would have helped hoteliers upgrade their properties to European resort standards. As it is, there is little or no money around for reinvestment."

Louise Ellman, leader of Lancashire County Council, says areas of Blackpool suffer from severe poverty. "The residents do not want to depend on tourism. Assisted area status would have helped us revive the manufacturing industry, especially engineering, in the region. Many people who worked at British Aerospace have lost their jobs."



Rising 235ft above the town, the biggest roller-coaster in the world, costing £12 million, is pictured under construction in Blackpool

Nomads barricade the desert

By Bill Frost

NOMADIC Berber tribesmen have begun erecting stone barricades across ancient camel routes in the hope of hampering Moroccan government attempts to open up the Sahara to tourists.

The nomads fear that their way of life is being threatened as the government, in conjunction with tour operators, attempts to capitalise on the mystique of the African desert. The protests are, however, largely symbolic.

On a recent overnight caravan trip into the Sahara, our party encountered the first of at least six barricades late in the afternoon. Rocks had been piled across the camel route, compelling travellers to manoeuvre delicately through the shifting sands which flanked the trail.

Yedra, our guide, told us: "Some of the nomads want to stop us going into the Sahara; others block the routes as a practical joke."

New, as yet untapped destinations are now earmarked for development, including the High Atlas mountains and oasis towns on the edge of the desert, where the French Foreign Legion once held sway.

To ensure safe passage for tourists, who in the past have been bullied by beggars or subjected to the unwelcome attention of others, there are regular police checkpoints on the roads from civilisation to the wilderness.

Inspirations, a Surrey-based tour operator, has tailored a series of packages costing from £539 for seven nights and designed to suit holidaymakers seeking to discover "the truth about Morocco", including a trek across the Sahara on camels and in four-wheel drive vehicles.

Overnighting in the Sahara we inadvertently camped within a few hundred metres of a nomad's tent pitched by a high dune for protection against the cold night wind. Yedra advised us against going over to his fire.

"Some of them are very private people," said the guide. "They think the desert is private, too."

Before dawn, the nomad's tent had gone. "He will not come back here again," Yedra said. "He will feel that this piece of desert is no longer his."

Dubrovnik is afloat again

By Jo Kearney

DUBROVNIK'S international marina, which was severely damaged when the Serbian army invaded two years ago, plans to re-open in the spring after a £4 million restoration programme.

Up to 300 yachts, worth about £20 million, were burnt and sunk by the shelling, buildings and facilities were gutted and much of the equipment seized.

Since restoration work on the marina began last year, the yachts and tons of debris have been retrieved from the harbour bed. A new yacht club and duty-free shop have been built and washroom facilities are under construction. Electricity and water supplies have been restored.

Niko Bulic, the Croatian Minister of Tourism, said: "Now, providing the international community view Dubrovnik as being safe, I should expect at least 50 per cent of pre-war yacht totals to return, and as many as 30 per cent on a long-term basis."

However, Simon Lyon-Smith, a marine consultant, was sceptical: "About 55 per cent of the yachts that were destroyed belonged to British people or companies and many of the others to Western Europeans and Americans. I think it will take four or five years before things return to normal."

Paul Gelder, the features editor of *Yachting Monthly* said: "No one would risk berthing a £30,000 to £40,000 yacht in a country that is still at war — even if the conflicts are hundreds of miles away — until they are absolutely sure that their boat will be safe."



The shelling of Dubrovnik destroyed hundreds of yachts, but a new £4 million marina will open soon

Between January and September last year, 1.4 million tourists — 30 per cent of pre-war figures — holidayed in Croatia. The government says many more will come this year as 80 per cent of the 20,000 hotel beds in the Dubrovnik area will be empty after the rehabilitation and repatriation of 31,000 refugees presently housed there.

In the short term, all rooms will be redecorated, while a long term programme will upgrade hotels to EC standards.

The Foreign Office still has restrictions on flights to Dubrovnik and visitors have to fly to Zagreb on the regular Croatian Airlines flights from Heathrow and travel independently from there.

☐ Phoenix Holidays (0345 626468), the Croatian travel company, is planning direct flights from Birmingham and Glasgow to the holiday airport of Pula to meet the growing demand from British tourists, *Gillian Bowditch writes.*

This year, the company is expecting to sell holidays to 10,000 British tourists. Derek Sibbering, the product manager at Phoenix, says the company is offering holidays to the resorts of Poreč, Rovinj, Opatija and to the lakes and mountains of Slovenia.

"Most of the people who go on our holidays have been travelling to the former Yugoslavia for years and have made friends there. It's extremely good value for money because the exchange rate is so favourable" he said.

A fortnight for one at a family-style hotel in Poreč at the height of the season costs £472. Weekly flights from Glasgow begin in June and from Birmingham in May.

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Hotel meals are not included because most visitors prefer to enjoy eating in the host of different restaurants in this gourmet's paradise where there is a range of menus to suit every pocket.

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● **Hilton:** central location with heated outdoor swimming pool. Recently undergone entire refurbishment. Spacious rooms offering excellent value. Prices: dep Feb 20, £699; dep Feb 27 and Mar 6, £729. Single supplement per night, £46.

● **Mandarin Oriental:** rated one of the ten top hotels in the world. Prices: dep Feb 20 and Feb 27, £799; dep Mar 6, £819. Single supplement per night, £57.

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2. After three nights in Hong Kong you can fly on to Phuket for a seven-night stay at the four-star Kata Beach Hotel on the Andaman Sea, returning to Hong Kong for a two-night stay. Add-on price £398 (single supp £150).



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Bermuda base fears

By Harvey Elliott

CUTS in the US defence budget, which have led to redundancy for hundreds of thousands in America, have also had a dramatic impact on Bermuda, Britain's oldest colony.

The naval base, from which ships were sent to hunt for any potential Soviet underwater threat to America's Eastern seaboard, was almost lost among the long list to be axed as part of the peace dividend.

Now that menace has faded, the Pentagon believes it no longer wants the base and will pull out by September 1995. That will mean that the airport, used by most of the island's 550,000 tourists each year, will also be abandoned. The tiny Atlantic island and its 60,000 inhabitants are, not surprisingly, worried by the loss of the base and the Americans' expertise in running the airport.

Maxwell Burgess, the island's transport minister, last week met with the Foreign Office, the Transport Department and aviation and shipping organisations to see whether Britain could help to fill the gap. "We had very useful discussions, especially with BAA," Mr Burgess said before he returned to Bermuda. Now, BAA could be asked to run the airport. It may be small beer for a company whose airports include Heathrow but it is vitally important to Bermuda, which relies on tourism and off-shore finance for its income.

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NEWS

Royal security review after attack

■ An urgent review of royal security was ordered after a student concerned about the plight of Cambodian boat people fired two blank shots from a starting pistol at the Prince of Wales during an open-air concert in Sydney.

The prince, taking part in an Australia Day celebration, was bundled aside by his bodyguard as the gunman was overpowered and arrested. The incident was over in seconds and within minutes the unharmed prince was delivering a speech as though nothing had happened..... **Pages 1, 3, 16, 17**

Bulger sentences spark dispute

■ The two killers of James Bulger, the two-year old abducted and murdered on Merseyside, should serve a minimum of eight years, the trial judge has recommended to the Home Secretary ..... **Page 1**

Pledges dropped

Labour has ditched its spending pledges on health after an internal row over a policy document. References to restoring underfunding have been removed from the report..... **Pages 1, 8**

Hurd questioned

Douglas Hurd will face MPs over the decision to give £234 million in aid to Malaysia in return for trade contracts..... **Page 1**

Court action

The school governors who refused to suspend a head teacher for banning *Romeo and Juliet* have been threatened with legal action. Hackney council said it would go to court unless the governing body temporarily relieved Jane Brown of her duties pending an enquiry..... **Pages 1, 6**

Attempt to silence

Tory leaders have tried to silence grass-roots critics by banning any motions for debate from constituency associations at the Central Council conference..... **Page 8**

Minister quits

Boris Fyodorov, Russia's Finance Minister, admitted defeat in his battle to remain in the new cabinet, and left his post warning of an "economic coup"..... **Page 12**

Procedures tightened

Cancer screening procedures for women are to be tightened after a series of mistakes put patients' lives at risk..... **Page 5**

Deal offered

Morihiro Hosokawa, the Japanese Prime Minister, offered a compromise to his Liberal Democratic Party opponents to try to save his government..... **Page 10**

Efforts intensify

John Major will intensify efforts to restore his authority as ministers rally behind his attempt to save the Tory reputation as the party of low taxation..... **Page 2**

Rich become richer

The rich have become richer and the poor poorer since 1979, according to *Social Trends*, the latest annual statistical survey of the nation. Spending for those in the middle groups has remained almost constant..... **Page 9**

Presidents meet

Presidents Mugabe of Zimbabwe, Masire of Botswana and de Klerk of South Africa met in Gaborone to help the embattled government of Lesotho..... **Page 13**

Violent films

American television programmes and films have a fifth more violence than those made in Britain and are three times more likely to include bad language..... **Page 7**

Crimes of the nation

On the day President Clinton promised to crack down on crime in his State of the Union address, New York served up a traditional menu of violence..... **Page 11**

Budgie dies from passive smoking

■ The death of a budgerigar has been blamed on passive smoking. Six-year-old Peter fell off his perch two days after being diagnosed as suffering from lung cancer. The 40-a-day habit of his elderly owner was blamed yesterday for his death. A veterinary surgeon said that Peter almost certainly died from passive smoking ..... **Page 5**



The Indian Army, in colourful headdresses, marching in the 44th Republic Day parade in the capital, Delhi, yesterday. **Page 10**

BUSINESS

Mirror Group: Mirror Group pensioners' representatives are locked in negotiations with three banks for £200 million compensation after their High Court case was adjourned..... **Page 23**

Coal: Subsidies to help British Coal find new markets are so restrictive that the aid can rarely be used, a Commons select committee heard..... **Page 24**

Markets: Shares drifted lower in London, with the FT-SE 100 index closing 7.9 down at 3,436.1. Sterling lost ground, easing .13 cents to $1.4925 and .96 pfennigs to DM2.6086..... **Page 26**

Tennis: Three Americans will contest the men's semi-finals of the Australian Open. Todd Martin will play Sweden's Stefan Edberg, while Jim Courier will meet the Wimbledon champion and world No 1, Pete Sampras..... **Page 39**

Cricket: Graeme Hick scored 111 runs as England declared on 265 for three to set the Antigua XI 325 to win on the final day of their four-day match..... **Page 44**

Football: Rangers have decided to withhold Celtic's ticket allocation for the last Old Firm match of the season because of "wanton vandalism"..... **Page 44**

Embarrassing questions: "What's a lay-by for anyway?" Margot Norman on sex scandals..... **Page 14**

Under pressure: Are your tablets really necessary? A GP believes hypertension is overtreated, reports Nigel Hawkes..... **Page 15**

Kipling's Burden: Admirers of Rudyard Kipling need not apologise for him, argues Colin Welch. Plus: new fiction, with Rachel Cusk on Mary Wesley and reviews of books by Katie Roiphe, Derek Jarman and Lady Margaret Douglas-Home..... **Pages 36, 37**

Innocence captured: With his immaculate new film, *The Age of Innocence*, Martin Scorsese has forsaken his usual mean streets for period drawing-rooms. Robin Williams steps into skirts for *Mrs Doubtfire*..... **Page 33**

Not mad, not a monk: That is the conclusion of last night's *Timewatch* documentary on BBC2, presenting a revisionist portrait of Rasputin..... **Page 33**

To work on an egg: The fabulous treasures produced by the last imperial jeweller of Russia, Fabergé, have gone on display at the Victoria and Albert Museum..... **Page 35**



Margaret Hobbs took a small bowl to the *Antiques Roadshow*, which led to the sale of a silver collection worth £80,000 kept in shoe boxes
Page 5



Dimple Kapadia, one of India's most glamorous film stars, has been blacklisted by producers after she refused to play an elderly mother
Page 10



Sylvette Davide, one of Picasso's favourite models, has been reunited with Woman With The Key, the sculpture that she inspired
Page 7

THE TIMES TOMORROW

Can the Tories survive?

■ The results of the first Mori opinion poll since the Government was rocked by the rows over back to basics and tax increases

Pop on Friday

■ Deep in Bush House, a BBC World Service presenter is explaining rap lyrics, in single-syllable standard English, to the five-million strong audience. It's a vital, but often hilarious, assignment

Ringing the changes

■ Video-telephones have failed to take off. Will video calls using personal computers be more popular?

The work of the clandestine International Defence and Aid Fund is under scrutiny in *Secret History: White Lies* (C4, 9pm)..... **Page 43**

A nation of islands

Politicians cannot reverse fundamental technological and social changes that are taking place throughout the world. But they ought to provide ideas about how man's need for society can continue to be addressed..... **Page 17**

Hosokawa's crusade

In calling for elections, Mr Hosokawa would be taking a risk. It would still be the better and braver course..... **Page 17**

Silent warriors

Australians must realise whatever they decide will have profound implications for Commonwealth members still acknowledging the Queen as head of state..... **Page 17**

WILLIAM REES-MOGG

There are some puzzling questions about the libel action Gillian Taylforth and Geoff Knights brought against *The Sun*. The most obvious one is why they brought it at all..... **Page 16**

NICHOLAS BUDGEN

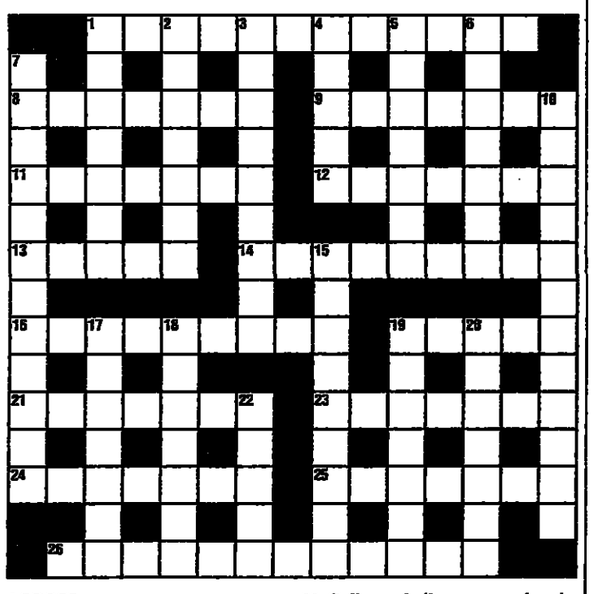
I shall be asking the House of Commons to give a second reading to a Bill to amend the Bank of England Act, 1946. This is not a Bill to create an independent Bank or even an autonomous Bank. It is no attempt to graft another fancy foreign institution into our constitution..... **Page 16**

Major-General Richard Jelf, Commandant of the Police College at Bramshill, 1957-63; Professor William Hayes, microbiologist and molecular geneticist; James Boyce, Labour MP for Rotherham; Heather Sears, actress..... **Page 19**

How to improve treatment of breast cancer..... **Page 17**

Before he delivers long-term economic aid to the people of Chiapas, President Salinas must respond to their human rights concerns. Many places remain occupied and subject to arbitrary repression
—Los Angeles Times

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,450



ACROSS

1 Such blows make things harder to change (5-7).
8 Cause of loss of standing for man in the field (3-4).
9 Hail a Conservative leading the right (7).
11 Weak hand making section of course hard to negotiate (7).
12 Newspaper placed back here? Times readers may use it (7).
13 Expert from a small part of France (5).
14 Move 18 into Brazilian city for opera (9).
16 Old garment being worn, or a short suit (9).
19 Such a person may be about to swindle (5).
21 Found lexicographer initially put animal in dictionary (7).
23 Gallery rebuilt on a grand scale (7).
24 One who enjoys solitude before being joined by child (7).
25 Creature putting a chap at ease, so to speak (7).
26 Note skating skill in extremely risky manoeuvring (12).

DOWN

1 Music paper and magazine in US (7).
2 Presumption soldier, for example, can be courageous (7).
3 Order for street cop kept under strict wraps (3-6).
4 President's architectural brothers (5).
5 On South side of French waterway (7).
6 Person who's matter-of-fact about a record (7).
7 Twelve points they score altogether, badly beaten (5-3-4).
10 Town giving poet precedence over economist (6,6).
15 Players' opponents once – they did a lot of running (9).
17 Relative absence of content in answer that's obscure (7).
18 Valiant characters of newly independent state (7).
19 Old port afforded by rich, not poor (7).
20 Excel in non-patent work (7).
22 Aspiration in King's speech (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 19,449

C	A	M	E	B	A	■	Q	U	A	Y	S	I	D	E
■	L	■	C	■	R	U	■	U	■	P	■	I	■	■
W	I	T	C	H	C	R	A	F	T	■	R	O	P	E
■	B	■	E	■	H	■	T	■	O	■	A	■	S	■
V	I	E	N	N	E	S	E	■	N	O	T	A	T	E
■	■	T	■	R	■	R	■	O	■	■	I	■	■	■
S	P	A	R	■	■	C	O	M	E	B	A	C	K	■
■	U	■	I	■	E	■	Y	■	R	■	K	■	■	■
S	P	E	C	I	M	E	N	■	■	O	U	S	T	■
■	P	■	■	M	■	T	■	B	■	T	■	■	■	■
W	E	I	R	D	O	■	E	L	E	P	H	A	N	T
■	T	■	A	■	B	■	N	■	G	■	E	■	O	■
D	E	E	P	■	I	N	A	U	G	U	R	A	T	E
■	E	■	I	■	■	R	■	A	■	L	■	C	■	■
D	R	U	D	G	E	R	Y	■	R	H	Y	T	H	M

Times Two Crossword, page 44

TIMES REGIONAL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouces,Avon,Somis	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Hereids & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and road-works information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks	
Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

MOON

Sun rises:	Sun sets:
7.47 am	4.41pm
Moon sets	**Moon rises**
7.13 am	5.08 pm

Full moon 1pm
London 4.41 pm to 7.47 am
Bristol 4.51 pm to 7.56 am
Edinburgh 4.35 pm to 8.17 am
Manchester 4.42 pm to 8.03 am
Penzance 5.07 pm to 8.03 am

Tourist rates are on page 26

WEATHER

☐ **General:** Most of England and Wales will start with rain but it will turn brighter. Showers will affect W coast during the afternoon, and more rain will sweep across the area during the evening, turning to snow over high ground. Northern Ireland and Scotland will stay cloudy with showers or more persistent rain. Snow is expected over the Scottish mountains and Mourne mountains later. Very strong winds will make it feel cold in many places.
☐ **SE, cent S & N, SW and E England, E Anglia, E Mids, Channel Is:** Bright after early rain but more rain later. Wind W to SW, strong locally gale. Max 10C (50F).
☐ **W Mids, Wales, NW England:** Becoming brighter with showers. Wind W to SW, strong locally gale. Max 8C (46F).
☐ **Lakes, Iofd, SW Scotland, Glasgow, N Ireland:** Mainly cloudy with rain or showers, snow over mountains later. Wind W to SW, strong locally gale. Max 7C (45F).
☐ **N E England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen:** Mainly cloudy with showers, prolonged at times. Wind West to SW, strong locally gale. Max 6C (43F).
☐ **Highlands, Moray Firth, NE and NW Scotland, Argyll:** Frequent wintry showers. Wind W to NW, strong to gale, perhaps severe gale later. Max 5C (41F).
☐ **Orkney, Shetland:** Showers, prolonged at times. Wind West to SW, strong to gale. Max 3C (37F).
☐ **Outlook:** Showers tomorrow will slowly die out and winds will moderate. Frost on Saturday morning, but rain later.

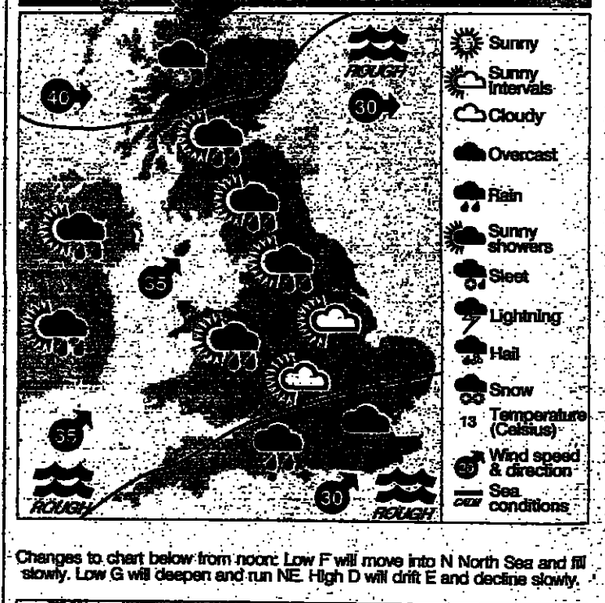
MIDDAY: t=thunder; d=drizzle; fg=fog; s=sun; sl=sleet; sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud; r=rain; h=hail; dr=dull; g=gale; sh=shower; b=bright

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	3.3	0.02	8	46	b	Lowestoft	3.8	0.09	12	54	b
Anglesey	1.7	0.26	9	48	sh	Manchester	3.0	0.34	10	50	sh
Aspatria	0.3	0.50	9	48	sh	Margate	X	-	13	55	s
Aviemore	0.2	0.30	5	41	sn	Minehead	X	0.08	12	54	sh
Belfast	1.4	0.14	7	45	h	Morecambe	0.5	0.76	8	46	sh
Birmingham	4.4	0.03	12	54	b	Newcastle	3.2	0.06	9	48	sh
Bognor R	5.2	0.01	11	52	s	Newquay	X	-	-	-	-
Bournemouth	5.2	0.02	13	55	s	Norwich	4.4	0.13	12	54	s
Bristol	2.4	0.31	10	50	sh	Nottingham	4.4	0.19	10	50	sh
Buxton	3.7	0.81	8	46	sh	Penzance	X	-	-	-	-
Cardiff	4.4	0.48	10	50	h	Plymouth	2.1	0.13	11	52	sh
Clacton	4.6	-	13	55	s	Poole	4.2	-	13	55	b
Colwyn Bay	2.6	0.26	11	52	r	Ross-o-wye	3.6	0.05	12	54	r
Cromer	4.0	0.18	11	52	s	Ryde	X	-	-	-	-
Eastbourne	2.3	0.01	10	50	b	Scilcombe	X	-	-	-	-
Edinburgh	1.3	0.43	7	45	h	Sandown	4.0	0.01	11	52	sh
Eskdalemuir	0.1	0.59	7	45	h	Saunin Snd	4.9	0.08	10	50	b
Exmouth	5.1	-	12	54	s	Scarboro'	X	-	-	-	-
Falmouth	-	0.12	11	52	c	Scilly Isles	4.1	0.04	10	50	s
Folkestone	3.7	0.01	12	54	s	Shanklin	3.8	0.01	11	52	s
Glasgow	0.2	0.42	7	45	sh	Skegness	X	-	-	-	-
Guernsey	-	0.08	13	55	c	Southend	5.2	0.01	12	54	b
Hastings	1.9	0.01	11	52	b	Southport	2.5	0.69	X	X	h
Hayling I.	X	-	-	-	-	Southsea	4.4	-	11	52	b
Herne Bay	4.2	-	13	55	b	Stornoway	1.6	0.29	5	41	h
Hove	2.1	-	10	50	b	Swanage	3.9	0.01	12	54	s
Hunstanton	5.1	0.17	9	48	s	Teignmouth	4.8	-	13	55	b
Isle of Man	1.9	0.25	9	48	sh	Tenby	1.5	0.10	11	52	sh
Jersey	0.1	0.38	10	50	r	Thee	1.7	0.28	8	46	h
Kinloss	0.6	0.07	5	41	sn	Torquay	4.3	0.02	13	55	r
Leeds	4.6	0.23	9	48	sh	Tynemouth	-	0.05	9	48	sh
Lerwick	1.7	0.39	6	43	h	Ventnor	2.8	-	11	52	s
Leuchars	2.3	0.11	8	46	sh	West-s-Mare	3.0	0.36	10	50	r
Littlehampton	4.0	-	12	54	s	Weymouth	4.5	0.01	12	54	sh
Liverpool	3.9	0.68	10	50	b	Wick	3.3	0.11	4	39	sn
London	4.7	-	13	55	b						

These are Tuesday's figures

Ajaccio	14	57	c	Corfu	14	57	s	Malaga	17	63	s	Santiago	29	84	s
Alicatti	17	63	s	Dublin	8	46	c	Malta	15	59	s	S Paulo	29	84	f
Alex'dria	18	64	c	Dubrovnik	9	48	c	Melb'rne	36	97	s	Seoul	3	37	s
Algiers	15	59	f	Faro	17	63	s	Miami	25	77	f	St'kholm	0	32	sn
Amst'dm	7	45	f	Florence	8	46	c	Milan	8	46	c	Strasb'rg	6	43	r
Athens	15	59	s	Frankfurt	6	43	r	Montreal	-16	3	s	Sydney	28	79	s
Bahrain	20	68	c	Funchal	18	61	c	Moscow	-5	23	f	Tangier	15	59	c
Bangkok	30	86	s	Geneva	4	39	r	Munich	3	37	r	Tel Aviv	12	54	r
Barbados	29	84	f	Gibraltar	16	61	c	Nairobi	26	79	f	Tenerife	17	63	c
Barcelona	15	59	s	Helsinki	-9	21	f	Naples	13	55	c	Tokyo	11	52	s
Beirut	17	63	f	Hong K	22	72	s	N Delhi	21	70	s	Toronto	-9	16	c
Belgrade	4	39	r	Innsbruck	4	39	c	N York	2	36	c	Tunis	15	59	c
Berlin	5	41	c	Istanbul	11	52	s	Nice	16	64	s	Valencia	20	68	s
Bermuda	22	72	s	Jeddah	27	81	s	Oslo	-5	23	s	Vanc'ver	7	45	c
Biarritz	12	54	c	Jo'burg	15	59	r	Paris	9	48	f	Venice	8	46	c
Boole'x	12	54	c	Karachi	25	77	f	Peking	2	36	s	Vienna	8	46	c
Brussels	7	45	c	L Palmas	18	64	c	Perth	25	77	s	Warsaw	5	41	r
Budapst	5	41	r	Le Tquet	9	48	f	Prague	5	41	f	Washton	7	45	c
B Aires	21	70	f	Lisbon	14	57	s	Reykjavik	-2	28	sn	Wellngton	16	61	s
Cairo	20	68	f	Locarno	7	45	c	Rhodes	15	59	s	Zurich	5	41	c
Cape Tn	27	81	s	L Angels	13	55	f	Rio de J	33	91	f				
Chicago	1	34	d	Luxembg	4	39	r	Riyadh	22	72	s				
Ch'church	15	59	c	Luxor	22	72	s	Rome	13	55	c				
Cologne	4	39	c	Madrid	12	54	s	Salzburg	5	41	c				
C'hagn	3	37	c	Majorca	16	61	s	S Frisco	10	50	r				

X = not available



Changes to chart below from noon: Low F will move into N North Sea and fill slowly. Low G will deepen and run NE. High D will drift E and decline slowly.



TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	1.26	6.85	1.46	7.00	Liverpool	11.01	9.34	11.22	9.28
Aberdeen	1.08	4.09	1.12	4.29	Lowestoft	9.22	2.33	9.25	2.29
Avonmouth	6.53	13.02	7.21	13.04	Margate	11.58	4.58	-	-
Belfast	10.48	3.46	11.11	3.20	Milford Haven	5.56	6.80	6.20	6.82
Cardiff	6.36	12.04	7.06	12.06	Newquay	4.47	6.80	5.10	6.80
Devonport	5.30	5.40	5.56	5.20	Oban	5.34	3.90	6.01	3.90
Dover	10.42	4.31	11.11	4.54	Penzance	4.27	5.50	4.51	5.37
Falmouth	5.00	5.20	5.25	5.00	Portland	6.30	2.10	7.00	1.90
Glasgow	12.41	4.40	12.41	4.80	Portsmouth	11.08	4.80	11.32	4.76
Harwich	11.42	3.79	-	-	Shoreham	10.52	6.30	11.20	6.37
Holyhead	10.06	5.54	10.26	5.45	Southampton	10.42	4.42	11.12	4.51
Hull	6.05	7.02	6.18	7.22	Swansea	6.08	9.24	6.27	9.26
Ilfracombe	6.41	8.90	6.06	8.97	Tees	9.27	6.07	9.46	5.93
King's Lynn	6.10	6.20	6.22	6.60	Wilton-on-Rea	11.35	4.82	11.52	4.86
Leith	2.19	5.29	2.38	5.45					

Tuesday: Highest day temp: Southampton, 14C (57F); lowest day max: Wick, northeast Scotland, 4C (39F); highest rainfall: Buxton, Derbyshire, 0.61in; highest sunshine: Scotland, Bognor Regis and Bournemouth, 5.2hr.

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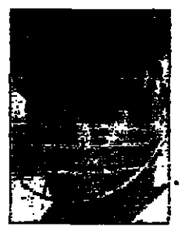
ANATOLE KALETSKY 27

Tax: lies or just old-fashioned incompetence?



ARTS 33-35

Michelle Pfeiffer in Scorsese's new masterpiece



SPORT 39-44

Hick century helps England take control

BOOKS: SPRING FICTION
Page 36, 37

THE TIMES

THURSDAY JANUARY 27 1994



ADRIAN BROOKS

Lord Hanson, flanked by Lord White, left, chairman of Hanson Industries, and Derek Bonham, group vice-chairman, at yesterday's annual meeting

Hanson to float Beazer Homes

BY COLIN CAMPBELL

HANSON is floating its entire holding in Beazer Homes on the London Stock Exchange this spring, in an offering that will raise at least £400 million.

The group will float separately, in America, up to 70 per cent of Beazer's US division. Beazer was acquired in 1991 in a £391 million deal that included the assumption by Hanson of £1 billion of debt.

The British float is subject to market conditions, but City analysts are already being given preliminary financial details about Beazer. To capitalise on public interest, Hanson has set up a shareholder "hotline" to handle prospectus enquiries.

The group first announced its flotation plans last month, when it said that Lazard Brothers, the merchant bank, was to sponsor and underwrite the UK issue. Funds raised from the two flotations will be used to cut group debt.

Dennis Webb, Beazer's managing director, told analysts that in the year to September 30 — during which Beazer built 4,805 houses — turnover was £276 million and operating profit, £37.5 million. In the previous year, to June 30, 1992, turnover was £251.2 million. After exceptional writedowns totalling £99.3 million, the 1992 operating loss was £61.7 million.

At the end of December, Beazer Homes had a land bank of 16,117 plots, compared with 13,859 three months earlier. The division employs 1,900, and is Britain's fourth-largest national housebuilder.

Lord Hanson, the chairman, told Hanson's annual meeting yesterday that Peabody coal mine, in America, was working at virtually full capacity after prolonged labour disruption.

Asked whether the group might be interested in British Coal, he said the Government had yet to publish details of its planned privatisation. It was therefore premature to speculate.

Lord Hanson defended contributions by the group to the Conservative party, which totalled £100,000 in the year to September 30. He said the board had the right to manage the company's resources as it saw fit.

BUSINESS EDITOR
Robert Ballantyne

BUSINESS TODAY

GOOD TIDINGS

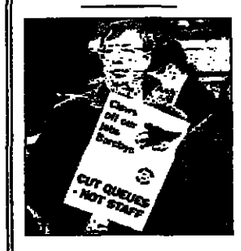


Rover is back in profit, after bucking recession in European carmaking, boosting sales and driving Land Rover to record
Page 24

TIED IN

Store and job cuts at William Low, the Scottish supermarket group, could herald wave of downsizing
Page 28, Tempus 27

TIRADE



Barclay's staff protest outside the bank's City headquarters against news of more job cuts in the South East
Page 28

TIED AID

British Coal says limits on mining aid makes funds almost impossible to access
Report, page 24
Pennington, page 25

Mirror pensioners likely to win deal

BY PATRICIA TEHAN
BANKING CORRESPONDENT

■ The legal case is one of several being pursued against City institutions that did business with Robert Maxwell by pensioners who want to track down funds

MIRROR Group pensioners are locked in talks that could lead to an out-of-court settlement this week with the three financial institutions they are suing for £200 million for allegedly misappropriating assets, and for damages.

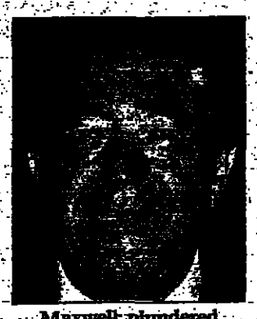
All sides hope a settlement can be reached, so that a multi-million pound court hearing, which it is estimated would last six months, can be avoided.

The action against the three, Invesco and Capel-Cure Myers, the UK fund managers, and Lehman Brothers, the American investment bank, had been due to start on Tuesday, but was adjourned until yesterday. Yesterday morning, Michael Crystal QC, leading counsel for Mirror Group Pension Trustees, asked the judge, Mr Justice Rattee, for a further adjournment until Monday morning.

The judge granted the request. One senior figure said that the judge would not have done so unless he believed a settlement was likely.

The pension trustees' claim against the three institutions is likely to be reduced by £25 million, following a settlement with Bank of America.

Other defendants in the action are Lehman Brothers International (Europe) and Lehman Capital Corporation, both part of Lehman Brothers, and Bishopsgate Investment Management, a company now in liquidation that ran five pension schemes for 32,000 employees of private companies controlled by the late Robert Maxwell.



Maxwell: plundered

Invesco said after the adjournment that it was in talks with parties to the action launched by MGN Pension Trustees that might result in an out-of-court settlement.

The pensioners allege that the three institutions should have been aware of Mr Maxwell's activities when dealing with businesses run by him while he was plundering his companies' pension funds.

The pension fund trustees must tread a fine line, to avoid being criticised by pensioners either for wasting money on expensive legal action, or for settling out of court for an inadequate amount.

Invesco's image has been tarnished by a series of mishaps. It is thought likely to prefer a settlement to a six-month hearing that could damage its share price and staff morale, and waste management time. In a note in its accounts for the year to December 31, 1992, the company warned that it was treating the pension scheme's claim as a contingent liability. The principal claim against Invesco is for £11.3 million, though the damages claim takes the total much higher.

Lehman Brothers would be anxious to avoid damaging publicity at a time when its parent, American Express, is about to float it off.

Those involved in the talks say they are cautiously optimistic that a settlement can be agreed.

The black hole in the Mirror's pension fund is estimated at £250 million. The trustees are considering claims against other banks with links with Mr Maxwell. The funds are part of the £440 million of pension assets that disappeared from schemes controlled by Mr Maxwell.

Sir John Cuckney, who was appointed by the government to co-ordinate City efforts to recoup money for Maxwell pensioners, has been promoting mediation and other possible resolutions of the disputes. Sir Peter Webster, a former high court judge, was appointed last summer to try to negotiate a global settlement.

Profit warning knocks Hogg Group shares

BY SARAH BAGNALL, INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

HOGG Group, the insurance broker, has become the latest subject of alleged insider dealing after heavy trading in its shares preceded a warning yesterday that profits for 1993 would reach only £6 million, compared to £13.4 million last time, and its final dividend was to be halved.

The news leaked into the market on Tuesday, triggering a 9 per cent fall in the share price from 167p to 152p. The 15p drop was followed by a further fall yesterday of 22p, which left the shares at 130p at the end of the day.

A spokesman at UBS, the company's broker, said: "We never comment on trading activity." However, Andrew Goodwin, insurance analyst at UBS, said that 3 million shares had changed hands on Tuesday and 1.5 million yesterday. This is far more than normal trading levels in Hogg shares of between 100,000 and 250,000.

The share dealings are expected to lead to an investigation by the Stock Exchange.

The announcement by Hogg was its second profits warning in the past four months. In September, at the interim stage, Anthony Howland Jackson, the chairman, said profits for the full year would not match those achieved last year.

Since then the picture has become bleaker prompting yesterday's statement, which said that preliminary management figures for December "showed an unexpected and marked deterioration in results, particularly in the US".

As a result, pre-tax profits for the year to December 31 are expected to reach £6 million, down from £13.4 million in 1992, and the final dividend has been cut from 5p to 2.5p, making a total for the year of 5.65p, compared with 8.15p last time.

Hogg, which closed its fine arts and jewellery business last year and withdrew from managing Lloyd's of London syndicates, expects reduced profits from its continuing operations of £7.3 million.

Last time, the operations made a profit of £10.1 million before tax. That £2.8 million fall was due in part to a £2 million decrease in profits from Hogg Robinson, which is based in America, where restructuring costs and losses from the medical insurance division continued to take their toll.

Tempus, page 27

O'Reilly will make offer for Independent

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN
MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

THE phoney bidding war for control of Newspaper Publishing, owner of *The Independent* and *The Independent on Sunday*, entered a new phase last night with confirmation that Tony O'Reilly, the Irish press magnate, is to make an offer for all or part of the company.

A spokesman for Dr O'Reilly said: "We are in the process of putting proposals to the board of Newspaper Publishing which we believe will resolve the problems of the company." The announcement was timed to coincide with a board meeting at Newspaper Publishing this morning.

The directors meet amid growing hostility from the group's journalists to an announcement earlier this week by Mirror Group Newspapers that it intends to make a full takeover bid for Newspaper Publishing as part of a consortium involving five of the company's existing directors. These include Andreas Whittam Smith, founding editor of *The Independent*, and its main Spanish and Italian investors.

Today's meeting is unlikely to be conclusive. Dr O'Reilly has previously put a price tag of about £60 million on the entire company — considerably more than the sum expected from the Mirror consortium.

Liam Healey, managing director of the Irish group, has been in London all week talking to several British publishing groups that might want to participate as partners. An O'Reilly spokesman said: "We would consider making a bid even if the Mirror offer gets 51 per cent acceptances."

Irish Independent executives say that the company, in which Dr O'Reilly has a 28 per cent stake, could make an Ir£100 million (£96 million) investment without recourse to shareholders. It has a stock market capitalisation of more than Ir£400 million, equity (including its titles) of Ir£189 million and debt of just Ir£10 million.

Dr O'Reilly is chairman of HJ Heinz. His interest is valued at more than Ir£100 million.

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US $ 1.4925 -0.0013

GOLD

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BRENT CRUDE

$14.38 per barrel (Mar)

8pm

LONDON CLOSING PRICES

MARKETS IN DETAIL PAGE 28, SHARE PRICES PAGE 30

Lenders 'cautious' about fall in repossessions

BY SARA MCCONNELL
PERSONAL FINANCE CORRESPONDENT

EVEN as they published figures showing "significant" falls in possessions and arrears, lenders sounded a note of caution yesterday. More than 300,000 mortgage holders are six or more months in arrears on their mortgage repayments, with 151,810 more than 12 months in arrears.

Adrian Coles, Director-General of the Council of Mortgage Lenders, which represents 98 per cent of lenders said: "We must not forget there is still a significant problem." Although nearly 7,000 fewer borrowers were recorded as being in long term arrears in the second half of 1993 than in the first half, the figure at the end of 1993 was still up on the 147,040 at the end of 1992. Long term arrears now account for 1.5 per cent of the total number of mortgages.

Lenders see this as a worrying trend in otherwise encouraging statistics. Part of the reason for the fall in repossessions and shorter term arrears (defined by lenders as less than 12 months) is that interest rates have fallen significantly, unemployment is starting to fall and confidence is beginning to return. House prices have also picked up, allowing some people to sell or extract themselves from the negative equity trap.

But borrowers who would have been a repossession statistic three years ago have now become a long term arrears statistic. Lenders are more reluctant to repossess, as they have been unable to sell in a dead market. Instead they have been helping borrowers "manage" arrears by rescheduling payments, allowing people to pay part of the principal each month and roll up interest or pay less every month. This way they hope to keep people in their homes and the amount of repossessions down.

Individual lenders vary considerably in their attitude to long term arrears. The Cheltenham & Gloucester, the sixth largest society, believes it is "fairer to borrowers and more prudent for the society" to repossess the homes of borrowers who have shown no sign of paying their mortgage rather than let them get deeper into arrears. C&G repossessed slightly fewer homes in 1993 than in 1992 but said the fall was nothing like as significant as other lenders. But its long term arrears figure in the year to September 30, 1993, is less than half the industry average.

However, other societies, such as the Nationwide, have made a specific commitment not to repossess as long as borrowers make a commitment to pay a certain amount, then stick to it. Its longer term arrears increased in 1993, albeit by less than 10 per cent.

Germany confident on growth and inflation

BETTER than expected inflation figures and encouraging Bundesbank remarks on money supply were sweet accompaniment to a forecast from Günter Rexrodt, German Economics Minister, that the German economy will emerge stronger from the recession. In his presentation of the government's annual report on the economy, he stuck to his forecast of 0.5 to 1 per cent west German growth this year, despite criticism of over-optimism. For all of Germany, Herr Rexrodt's forecast is 1 to 1.5 per cent growth this year.

Hopes that the Bundesbank will make an early cut in lending rates were heightened by remarks from Otmar Issing, a Bundesbank board member, who said the crucial M3 broad money measure would improve "considerably" at the start of this year after the above-target growth seen last year. The central bank has already made clear it expects M3 to overshoot its 6.5 per cent growth target for 1993. Provisional west German consumer price figures for January, published yesterday, showed annual inflation slowing to 3.4 per cent from 3.7 per cent in December. Pennington, page 25

Ford night shift returns

FORD is to re-introduce night shifts at its Halewood factory on Merseyside, one of its biggest plants, because of a multi-million pound order for Post Office vans. The factory has been producing vehicles only on day shifts this year and has been on reduced working since last October because of a slump in European sales. The night shift will be recalled for two weeks from February 14 to help with an existing order for 2,000 Escort vans for the Post Office. Ford will decide next month whether the factory can revert to full production in March.

North Sea oil output up

BRITAIN'S North Sea oil output last year was the highest since the 1988 Piper Alpha disaster, but rising production was more than offset by collapsing prices, according to economists at the Royal Bank of Scotland. Falling dollar prices, coupled with the pound's strength against the US currency, cut sterling oil prices in December by 10 per cent, to a five-year low of £9.20 a barrel. Gas output rose by 23 per cent in 1993 and 14 gas fields came on stream. Average daily North Sea revenues were £33.5 million, compared with £29.7 million in 1992; gas accounted for most of the increase.

TUC keeps union of 13

BRITAIN'S smallest union threatened to leave the TUC because it could not afford the affiliation fee. But big unions said last night they would pay the fee. The Sheffield Wool Shear Workers' Union, with 13 members, said it was having difficulty finding the necessary £1.40 per member and might be forced to leave the TUC, which it joined in 1890. The Engineering and Fastener Trade Union, with 240 members, also threatened to resign because of financial problems. But Jimmy Knapp, the TUC president, persuaded the general council to set up a fund to pay the two unions' fees.

Turnround at IBM UK

IBM UK, part of the American computer group, is expected today to report a return to profit last year and improved trading after losses of more than £700 million in 1992. This is expected to allow employees in Britain to escape large-scale job cuts despite the parent company's plans to shed 40,000 jobs worldwide. IBM has shed 2,000 UK jobs over the past year and plans "a few hundred" redundancies this year. "There will be no extra redundancies," said a spokeswoman. IBM UK employs 5,500 in Hampshire and 2,300 in Scotland at its two main manufacturing sites.

Good year for Sun Life

SUN Life, the insurance group that is owned by the Rockleigh Corporation, which is itself jointly controlled by UAP, the French insurer, and Transatlantic Holdings, yesterday announced a 55 per cent leap in new business for the year ended December 31, 1993. Worldwide premiums rose from £1.5 billion to £2.34 billion, boosted by a 57 per cent increase in single premium business to £2.2 billion, the highest level ever achieved. Annual premiums exceeded £100 million for the first time, rising 25 per cent to reach a total of £106.7 million.

Subdued response to gilts auction

BY PATRICIA TEHAN
BANKING CORRESPONDENT

THE Bank of England managed to carry through its £2.75 billion auction of Government bonds (gilts) yesterday. Disappointingly, however, the issue was only 1.21 times subscribed by investors.

The lowest accepted price was £98.15, giving a highest yield of 6.4 per cent, while the highest accepted price was £98.24, which yields 6.37 per cent. The average accepted price and yield were £98.20 and 6.38 per cent respectively.

The tail, or difference between highest and average accepted yield, was two basis points. The market had been expecting a difference closer to one basis point.

Observers expected the gilt offering of 6¼ per cent partly-paid stock to be at least 1.5 times covered. They said international investors were not keen on the maturity date of 2010.

Peter Fellner, gilts strategist at NatWest Capital Markets, said overseas investors tended to prefer a shorter maturity. The offer was geared towards domestic investors, who would be "natural long-term holders".

He said the market had been volatile since the beginning of the year, and "it may be that people have felt that the market may be in a consolidation phase and that this detracted from the attractions of getting into the stock".

Stock Market, page 26

Coal chief discloses subsidy restrictions

BY ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

THE terms of government subsidies promised to help British Coal find new markets are so tightly drawn that the aid can rarely be used, Neil Clarke, the chairman, said yesterday.

The promise of subsidies was a cornerstone of the strategy under which the Government "reprieved" a dozen pits from closure in March a year ago to undergo "market testing." Most have since closed because they were unable to make additional sales.

The disclosures about the terms accompanied a warning from Mr Clarke of further job losses and figures showing 24,700 colliery workers and more than 900 staff have left since October 1992, while the number of pits has fallen from 50 to 22. There are now only 14,800 miners at British Coal.

Mr Clarke told members of the Commons Select Committee on Trade and Industry that state aid for additional sales was available only on a pit by pit basis. He said no profitable pit was allowed a subsidy to secure additional sales.

Only pits with the potential to become profitable in the near future may qualify, and even collieries that meet that criteria are apparently disqualified if they have coal stock piles — as most of British Coal's remaining pits do.

The restrictive terms clearly surprised committee members. Richard Caborn, the chairman, repeatedly asked Mr Clarke if he had sought to have the terms relaxed.

Although he acknowledged that the terms had limited the use of subsidies, Mr Clarke replied: "The Government set the terms of the subsidy. "I have to abide by them."

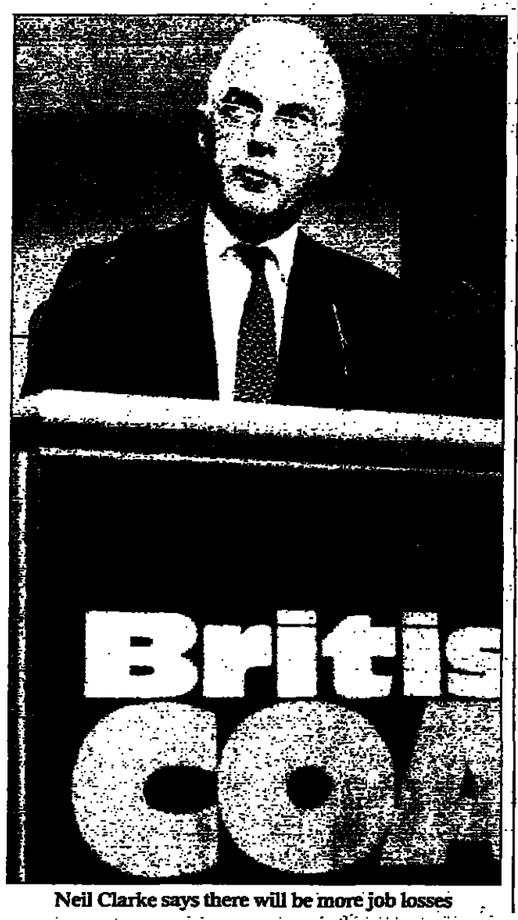
A British Coal spokesman later acknowledged: "Ellington is the only pit where we have subsidies." The pit, in Northumberland, has contracted to sell 1.5 million tonnes of coal over 15 months to a Alcan aluminium smelter near by .

Mr Clarke told the committee that because of lack of demand for coal, further closures were inevitable. He said there would be a "continuing imbalance" from April 1 when sales to generators drop by 10 million tonnes a year.

"We will have to address that situation very carefully," he said. "We will continue the extremely difficult task of bringing capacity into line with demand. The picture looks gloomy because the market is being taken away. Lack of demand is closing mines."

Mr Clarke refused to say which pits could be next on the closure list, although the closure of a further six collieries is expected to be announced next month. He said only a "small proportion" of employees above colliery level, were likely to remain after privatisation.

Pennington, page 25



Neil Clarke says there will be more job losses

Bradford TEC chief executive suspended

BY PHILIP BASSETT
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

THE chief executive of the Bradford Training and Enterprise Council has been suspended on full pay while it carries out an enquiry into "certain management issues."

Simon Cheema, a self-employed businessman who joined the TEC a year ago as chief executive, was suspended last Friday by a sub-committee of the TEC's board, which includes local business, council and union leaders. The TEC said a full board meeting had "unanimously endorsed" the suspension.

The TEC refused to disclose the issues at the centre of its investigation, saying only that full confidentiality "at this stage" was in the best interests of all concerned.

The suspension comes amid considerable criticism of the 82 TECs in England and Wales. A report by the London School of Economics found wasteful inefficiencies of up to £250 million in TECs, while the National Audit Office, the Government's principal financial watchdog, is mounting an inquiry into TEC finances. TECs receive more than £2.3 billion from the Government to fund training activities.

The Department of Employment, the sponsoring government department for all TECs, said the suspension followed allegations about the management and running of a particular Bradford TEC project.

EC stops France from subsidising Bull

FROM JAMES LANDALE IN BRUSSELS

AFTER months of delay, the European Commission decided yesterday to block any further state aid to Groupe Bull, the ailing French computer giant.

Commission officials said that the French government had failed to provide a restructuring plan, required under EC rules to avoid market distortions. The commission immediately blocked a planned state injection of Fr2.5 billion (£287 million) and announced that it would widen an enquiry into Fr11.1 billion of aid already given.

Bull is expected to announce 1993 losses of about £350 million.

However, Karel Van Miert, EC Competition Commissioner, failed to persuade his fellow commissioners to block a merger between three companies, Mannesmann Roehren-Werke, Ilva Spa's Dalmine and Vallourec's Valtubes, which provide steel tubes for heavy industry. They will now form a duopoly with Sweden's Sandvik.

The commission also announced that it was opening an enquiry into state aid to Klöckner Werke, the German steel company.

Rover sales defy European trend

BY KEVIN EASON, MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

ROVER is back in profit, the reward for being the only well known European carmaker to raise sales in the recession.

Driven by a 5 per cent jump in sales to 448,000, and a record performance by the Land Rover subsidiary, the group has bounced back from losses of £52 million in 1991 and £49 million in 1992. Rover last made a pre-tax profit in 1990, at £65 million.

Group pre-tax profits for last year could reach £20 million. Full financial details will be disclosed by British Aerospace, Rover's parent group, next month.

The results will be testament to a remarkable transformation from the strike-ridden, state-owned BL conglomerate, when it had to be rescued from bankruptcy. By the mid-1980s under Graham Day, then chairman, the severely rationalised group regained some credibility before being hit by the recession. Now, it is the only mass car producer in Europe to have grown in 1993, with its sales overtaking Mercedes-Benz and drawing level with BMW.

In Europe, Rover sales rose 9.7 per cent to 363,890, while the company's market share edged up to 3.2 per cent from 2.5 per cent. Every other big manufacturer's sales fell.

The strongest performance has come from Land Rover, which is thought to have contributed up to £100 million, the best performance since the company was founded in 1948. Sales of 73,527 last year were an increase of 30 per cent over 1992 with records broken in the UK, the US, Australia and Japan. The previous highest sales year was 1990 at 66,185.

The leap in registrations has been coupled with rapid productivity rises to make the four-wheel-drive vehicle maker one of the most coveted in the world.

But the car division's sales also showed a marked improvement, up 10 per cent to 356,332 against 323,406. John Towers, Rover Group managing director, said: "This performance has been achieved despite extremely difficult trading conditions throughout the world."


Towers: tough trading

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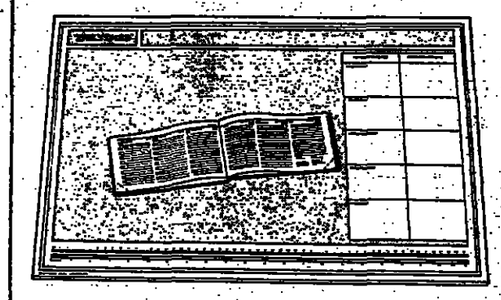
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☐ German recovery rests on the Bundesbank ☐ Ofgas set to rule on British Gas ☐ Coal subsidies that turned to ashes

Ersatz optimism in Bonn

☐ BARE knuckle fight? Well, not quite. But scepticism at Germany's equivalent of the CBI, which doubts the official forecast that the German economy will grow by up to 1.5 per cent this year, is still instructive. When employers share the Opposition's lack of optimism, it is clear that the world's third most important economy is drastically lacking in business confidence.

Since that is critical in the early stages of recovery, it is a worrying sign, especially with consumers under pressure from real wage cuts and modest indirect tax rises.

In Britain, a decade ago, a hostile CBI represented a manufacturing sector hit hard — and permanently damaged — by the combination of domestic recession and an exchange rate that had risen sharply. But the recovery that had already started was led by other sectors. In Germany, big manufacturers have a far more important role to play in getting things moving after more than a year of decline. Even in Germany, however, theirs is not the whole story. Within the government's 1.5 per cent growth forecast, the west German economy is expected to recover by only 0.5 to 1 per cent, with output in the east bouncing back by more than 6 per cent.

How instructive that Germany still thinks in such split terms, as do outside commentators. For the world's exporters, it is probably still the west that matters, at least until the cash tap is fully reopened for infrastructure improvements. For mainstream German industry, any turn in the recession this year is likely to be masked, in the public imagination, by further job losses and industrial disputes in traditional industries. IG Metall, the most powerful union in the industries that give Germany its still-regular visible trade surpluses, is gearing up for a spring of discontent as employers demand pay freezes and cuts in jobs and fringe benefits.

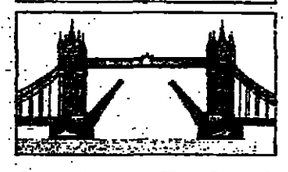
What could make a difference is the attitude of the Bundesbank. Under Hans Tietmeyer, it seems much more willing to help the federal government out. With money supply riding well above targets in 1993, it is noticeable that the December figures, which are expected to be unhelpful, have been delayed and that there are already noises from the Bundesbank explaining that special factors were at work. For the German economy — and for its French voluntary Siamese twin — the gradual downtrend of the mark is a crucial escape valve. Much as the Bundesbank would deny it, further and faster interest rate cuts would, as in Britain, probably have more impact via competitive devaluation than on domestic demand.

Even if the Bundesbank does turn a blind eye, however, and bases it policies on the government's optimistic growth forecasts, the main Continental markets are likely to remain almost as dull for another year as Japan's. If you are looking for a locomotive for the world economy, you might as well call up Thomas the Tank Engine.

Gas: the case for RPI minus four

☐ It must be hoped that Clare Spottiswoode, Director General of Ofgas, will take her cue from the Monopolies and Mergers Commission when she reveals, in all probability tomorrow, whether British Gas will be permitted to relax the tariff formula which dictates the price that British Gas is permitted to

PENNINGTON



charge its 17.6 million domestic customers.

The MMC, after a year's deliberation, recommended a modification to the tariff formula from the current RPI minus 5 to RPI minus 4 — effective from April Fools Day 1994 — in respect of supplies to users of 2,500 therms or less. As the MMC put it: "We accept that following the reduction in the monopoly threshold from 25,000 to 2,500 therms, the current tariff formula is likely to produce inadequate profits and adversely affect the supply of capital to the industry, particularly for the financing of new investments."

The MMC, it may be recalled, also recommended that British Gas's trading activities should be divested by end-March 1997: the ultimate solution to the distancing of gas supply from transporation and storage. Come December 17 last, and British Gas, staffed by the most frustrated management in the UK, outlined plans for the restructure of its domestic gas operations; in line with agreements reached with the Office of Fair Trading in the spring of 1992 and the MMC's subsequent recommendations to Ofgas. Gas trading activities would duly be separated from transportation and storage operations, in preparation for divestment.

Michael Heseltine, the Trade and Industry Secretary, chose to overrule the MMC's recommendations for divestment of gas supply operations and, instead, opted for a transparent internal separation of transportation and storage from supply. The domestic monopoly dies in 1988.

The reality is that the proposed modification of the RPI formula hardly equates to the various handicaps which British Gas is left to labour under in the name of competition, including the requirement to publish prices in the contract market (enabling competitors to cherry pick), ongoing social obligations, despite the ceding of market shares, and the heavy costs of splitting trading/transportation.

It would seem that the least Ms Spottiswoode should come up with is RPI minus 4.

What must be grasped is that British Gas's international expansion — to which the Government is ever ready to pay lip service — cannot be financed other than off a sound UK base.

Small print drives industrial policy

☐ NEIL Clarke, British Coal's last chairman, is becoming more frank with time. It might have been better for the industry if he had done so much earlier. But British Coal management was dutifully going along with the concept of privatisation that it had been sold. That revolved round creating a corporation that would be attractive to investors, based on a core of sound pits with decent margins and strong cash flow at the new lower prices. Mr Clarke and his colleagues did not, therefore, make as much of a fight as earlier industry leaders might have done over the "inevitable" closure of its hefty tail of marginal but potentially profitable capacity. In the event, British Coal was conned by the Government, along with the miners and concerned Tory MPs.

Falling demand is biting into the stock of profitable pits and the remains of the deep-mined coal industry is to be dismembered. Just to make sure that the White Paper proposals did nothing to interefere with the rundown of the industry, the subsidies for extra power generation sales, so strongly touted by Michael Heseltine, were so heavily circumscribed by the small print that there was little chance of their costing the Exchequer real money, even if there had been potential extra demand. There was not. As the big generators now complain, they are having to close down coal-fired capacity that provide cheaper power than gas stations taking away the market.

This is the reality behind the President of the Board of Trade's apparently encouraging rhetoric. Britain's industrial leaders will do well to remember this when Mr Heseltine touts his supposedly helpful new policies on competitiveness.

Compaq turns in record earnings

BY COLIN NARBROUGH
WORLD TRADE CORRESPONDENT

COMPAQ, the fast-growing Texan computer group, reported record fourth-quarter and full-year sales for 1993 and has laid claim to achieving the strongest growth in market share in personal computers.

In sharp contrast to many of its rivals in the troubled computer industry, Compaq announced record earnings of $151 million dollars in the fourth quarter, up from $89 million dollars a year ago, and more than doubled earnings for 1993.

The Houston company, which ranks third in the world in PCs behind IBM and Apple, showed a $462 million profit for 1993, or $5.35 a share, up from $213 million, or $2.52 a share, in 1992.

The results surpassed the analysts' expectations with earnings of $1.73 per share in its record fourth quarter, against $1.10 per share a year earlier. Wall Street had been expecting only $1.65 at best.

The company's revenue grew to $2.2 billion in the fourth quarter, said to be the highest per employee in the industry. The growth was broad-based and Compaq also reduced stocks.

Analysts immediately started to revise upwards their earnings forecasts for 1994.

Compaq said sales growth last year reached record levels in every region, with North America expanding 100 per cent to $3.7 billion. Even in recession-gripped Europe, the Middle East and Africa, sales were 44 per cent up at $2.7 billion.

W H Smith disappoints with muted £44.7m interim result

BY SUSAN GILCHRIST

SIR Simon Hornby, the retiring chairman of W H Smith, bowed out on a somewhat muted note yesterday as the group delivered interim results towards the bottom end of market expectations.

Pre-tax profits rose 11 per cent from £40.2 million to £44.7 million for the six months to November 27 compared with analysts' forecasts of between £44 million and £49 million. The share price slipped 6½p to 530½p.

Sir Malcolm Field, group managing director, said the group had seen only "modest recovery" in consumer spending and that price competition continued to play a prominent role in most of its markets. But he added some high street price wars were "imaginary" with certain retailers claiming to have the lowest prices though this was not the case.

Sir Malcolm said profit growth had been driven by a sharp improvement in productivity. A reduction of more than 800 jobs in the past year lifted sales per full-time employee by 11 per cent.

The British retailing operations, excluding Do-It-All, the DIY joint venture with Boots, lifted operating profits by 4.6 per cent to £32.1 million (£30.7 million) on turnover 7 per cent up at £612.5 million (£572.6 million). Sir Malcolm said operating margins were squeezed by a 14 per cent rise in depreciation after heavy investment in systems.

The star performers were Our Price, the music and video retailer, and Waterstone's, the book shop chain, which lifted like-for-like sales 6.3 per cent and 7.2 per cent respectively. Sir Malcolm said the music, video and computer games markets had been characterised by price deflation, some of it initiated by W H Smith. But he was confident the group's strategy of building market share through lower prices and controlling costs would bring real benefits.



Jeremy Hardie, left, incoming chairman of W H Smith and Sir Simon Hornby, who retired, yesterday

W H Smith's share of pre-tax losses at Do It All increased from £6.6 million to £7.5 million against the backdrop of a difficult DIY sector. Sir Malcolm said trading in the second half was more promising, with a 4 per cent sales rise in December. "The trading losses are materially down, but I would be the first to admit there is still a great deal more to do. But we are turning the corner." A total of 46 stores have been adapted to the new trading format with a further 36 to be added by the end of the year. Negotiations continue over the disposal of stores as part of the chain's rationalisation programme.

The group has decided to rebalance the interim and final dividends and has therefore lifted the interim payout on "A" shares from 4.3p to 5.0p.

Tempus, page 27

Cigarette wars burn Philip Morris profits

FROM PHILIP ROBINSON IN NEW YORK

AMERICA'S cigarette price wars burned the profits of Philip Morris, the $51 billion US tobacco, food and drink company last year.

The company, among the world's largest consumer conglomerates whose leading cigarette brand is Marlboro, said yesterday that operating profits from its US tobacco business dropped almost 46 per cent to $2.8 billion in the year ending December.

The news comes amid a new tobacco industry campaign to back smokers in California where smoking is banned in most public places. The lobby wants the law changed to allow smokers up to 25 per cent of space at restaurants, offices, bars and bowling alleys. Los Angeles bans smoking in the city's 7,000 restaurants.

The plunge in US tobacco profits was the main reason for a 37.4 per cent fall in Philip Morris net profits to $3.091 billion, despite record total sales of almost $61 billion. The company also charged $477 million against profits to pay for pension benefits.

US tobacco was its only business to show declining profits. Beer — where Miller is the company's best-selling brand — jumped almost 37 per cent to $356 million; Kraft food operations were up 7.4 per cent to $3.5 billion and its international tobacco business grew 17 per cent to a record $2.4 billion.

A boost from international cigarette sales limited the fall in Philip Morris' worldwide tobacco profits to 28.3 per cent at $5.2 billion. But the dollar value of its international tobacco sales is now 50 per cent higher than that for the US.

Its dividend, announced with the shake-up, was unchanged at $2.6 a share, the first time Philip Morris has failed to raise the payout for 25 years. The shares, which have fallen 23 per cent in the past 12 months, firmed 50 cents on Tuesday to $58.375.

Next is ahead of the pack

NEXT, the fashion retailer, continues to surpass the patchy recovery on the high street. It said it expected a 15 per cent rise in sales for the year to January 31 (Susan Gilchrist writes).

The group said second-half sales of its retail chain were up by 18 per cent, on a 1 per cent increase in selling space; those of Next Directory had risen 9 per cent.

David Keens, the finance director, said sales had been running about 10 per cent up on the previous year but had accelerated over Christmas. The group predicts a 17 per cent sales advance at its retail operations for the full year, and 9 per cent in the directory business.

Mr Keens said the group's policy of restricting discounting meant that margins had been maintained.

New finance chief at Storehouse

STOREHOUSE, the BhS to Mothercare retail combine, has poached Dick Steele of Lloyds Chemists to become its new finance director from April (Susan Gilchrist writes).

Mr Steele, 38, will replace Graham Rider, who left Storehouse abruptly last October. Like his predecessor, Mr Steele will also take on the job of finance director of BhS.

Richard Dixon, of Storehouse, said Mr Steele, who has also held financial posts at Next and Midsummer Leisure as well as being finance director at Lloyds Chemists, had impressed the group because of his strong retail credentials and managerial experience. The City was less convinced and Storehouse's share price fell 10p to 239p.

One retail analyst said: "Dick is associated with a period when Lloyds was very acquisitive, issued a lot of paper and took relatively unconventional accounting routes. But he is very sharp and bright. Storehouse must get it right this time after having had four finance directors in as many years."

The retail group has also appointed Martin Sorrell, chief executive of WPP, as a non-executive director.

Dispute over Euro Disney report

THE financial report to Euro Disneyland's banks, which are owed £2 billion by the troubled theme park near Paris, has been delayed for a week. The auditors responsible blame the Walt Disney parent company, which owns 49 per cent of the park (Martin Waller writes).

KPMG, brought in by the creditor banks to assess the park's finances, was to have presented its report yesterday. But the accountancy firm said the report would not be ready until February 2, because of difficulties in obtaining information from Walt Disney.

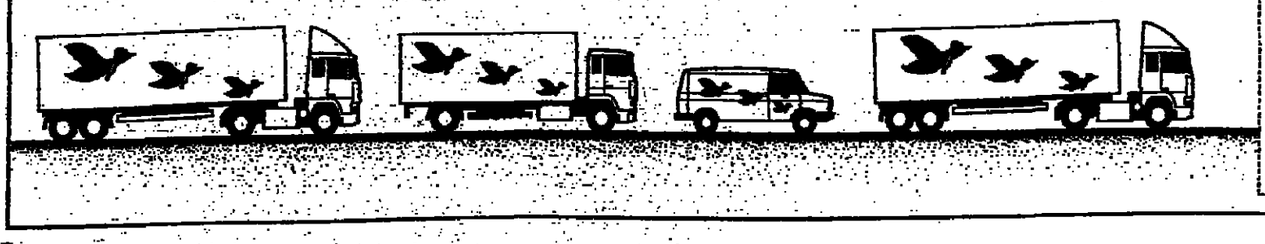
The American corporation denied this, saying it had made available all relevant information. A spokesman for Euro Disneyland said: "The banks are getting the information they want." The report was commissioned by the banks, mainly French, ahead of talks on a financial restructuring of the theme park, which lost Fr5.3 billion in the year to September 30. The banks and the main shareholder have reached an impasse over which will bear the heavier loss.

Walt Disney says it will not support the park financially beyond March 31.

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Investors become nervous as gilt auction takes its toll

A LUKEWARM response by investors to the latest £2.75 billion gilt auction sent a shiver through the equity market leaving share prices nursing small losses.

The auction was just 1.2 times oversubscribed compared with earlier estimates suggesting it may have been more than twice oversubscribed. As a result, buyers in the equity market were sent running for cover as hopes of a rally following Tuesday's 37-point fall quickly evaporated. Investors are now anxiously awaiting the the outcome of the $12 billion five year Treasury bond auction in New York.

The FT-SE 100 index, up more than six points around mid-morning, eventually lost

STOCK MARKET

ground, although it managed to finish above the low of the day helped by a firm start to trading on Wall Street. The index ended 7.9 lower at 3,436.1, for a two-day deficit of almost 45 points. Turnover was down on the previous day at 829 million shares.

Water companies came under pressure worried by increased regulatory interference. BZW has also become cautious, warning that the expected returns on capital were set too high. Losses were recorded in **Anglian**, 15p to 558p, **North West**, 12p to 555p, **Northumbrian**, 8p to 707p, **Severn Trent**, 9p to 587p, **South West**, 9p to 632p, **Southern**, 4p to 623p, **Thames**, 13p to 571p, **Welsh**, 7p to 697p, and **Wessex**, 8p to 709p.

GEC hardened 3½p to 340p supported by a buy recommendation from Credit Lyonnais Laing, the stockbroker. It says recent weakness in the shares has been overdone. The group enjoys a strong order book and continues to pick up lucrative contracts, particularly in the Far East.

Racal firmed 1p to 217p amid further heavy turnover which saw a further 2.5 million shares traded. A line of 1.1 million shares that had been overhanging the market were snapped up at 218p.

BBA Group fell 9p to 207p as James Capel, the broker, moved the shares on to its sell list.

Hogg Group, the insurance broker, tumbled 22p to 130p after issuing a profits warning. It said there had been an unexpected and marked deterioration in trading conditions, particularly in the United States.

WH Smith 'A' dipped 5p to 532p after weighing in with interim figures at the lower end of expectations showing an 11 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to £44.7 million. Sales grew by 7 per cent and the group's share of the Do-It-All losses totalled £7.5 million. Christmas sales grew by 6.2 per cent but the group gave warning that despite the improvement in consumer confidence it remained cautious about the growth rate of spending in 1994.

Next also eased 1p to 242p despite forecasting a 17 per cent increase in sales at its retail outlets and a 9 per cent increase in sales at its Next Directory. Brokers are currently forecasting pre-tax profits of about £65 million for the year. **Storehouse** finished 6p lower at 243p. The group has appointed Dick Steele as its new finance director. He has been finance director at Lloyds Chemists since 1990. Martin Sorrell, WPP chief executive, has also been appointed a non-executive director.

Hanson marked time at 278½p after telling shareholders that production at Peabody coal mines in the US was almost back to full capacity. Hanson is pressing ahead with plans to float Beazer its construction subsidiary, which it is estimated could be worth between £350 million and £400 million.

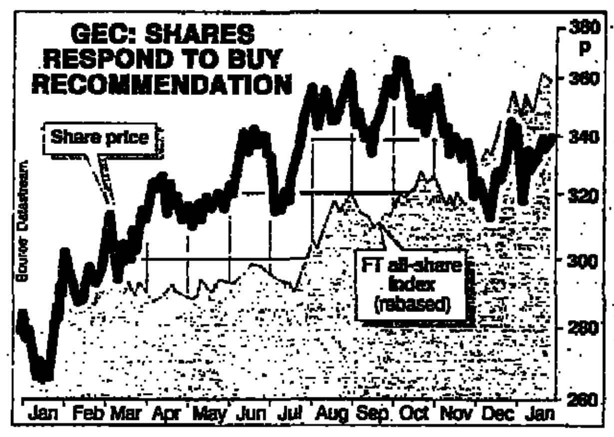
Rodime, the computer disc drive specialist, continued to attract speculative support jumping a further 9p to 42p. The group says it is unaware of any reason for the sharp rise and says a pre-trial conference in its patents claim against the US company Seagate Technology has been put back until March.

☐ **GILT EDGED:** Gilts suffered falls of more than £½ in response to low level of demand for the auction and depressed overseas bond markets. The March series of Long Gilt fell £13/32 to £119 1/16 as 112,000 contracts were completed.

In the cash market, Treasury 9 per cent 2012 lost £23/32 to £126 5/16, while at the shorter end Treasury 9½ per cent 1999 was five ticks lower at £115 19/32.

MICHAEL CLARK

GEC: SHARES RESPOND TO BUY RECOMMENDATION



MARKETS AT A GLANCE

THE POUND

US $ .... 1.4925 (-0.0013)
German mark ...... 2.6086 (-0.0096)
Exchange index .... 82.4 (-0.2)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT-SE 100 .... 3436.1 (-7.9)
Dow Jones .... 3899.84 (+4.50)*
Nikkei Avg ..... 19138.21 (+489.85)

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base 5½%
3-month Interbank 5 7/16-5 5/16%
US Federal Funds 3 1/16%*
3-month Treas Bills 2.92-2.91%*
Long Bond 6.34%*

CURRENCIES

New York:		London:	
£:$	1.4940*	£:$	1.4935
$:DM	1.7467*	£:DM	2.6099
$:SWfr	1.4710*	£:SWfr	2.1977
$:Ffr	5.9303*	£:Ffr	8.8560
$:Yen	110.27*	£:Yen	164.66
£:SDR	1.0881	£:ECU	1.3434

London Forex market close

GOLD

London Fixing ($):
AM 381.00 ...... PM 383.00
Close 383.45-383.95
New York:
Comex 383.45-383.95*

OIL

Brent Crude ..... $14.30 per bbl (Mar)

RETAIL PRICES

RPI: 141.9 Dec (1.9%) Jan 1987=100
* Denotes midday trading price

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.24	2.04
Austria Sch	19.31	17.81
Belgium Fr	57.14	52.74
Canada $	2.075	1.915
Cyprus Cyp£	0.810	0.760
Denmark Kr	10.91	10.11
Finland Mkk	9.06	8.26
France Fr	9.30	8.60
Germany Dm	2.76	2.55
Greece Dr	396.00	371.00
Hong Kong $	12.21	11.21
Ireland Pt	1.09	1.01
Italy Lira	2632.00	2477.00
Japan Yen	180.00	163.00
Malta	0.630	0.575
Netherlds Gld	3.070	2.840
Norway Kr	11.79	10.99
Portugal Esc	274.00	256.50
S Africa Rd	5.85	4.95
Spain Pta	218.50	204.50
Sweden Kr	12.51	11.71
Switzerland Fr	2.33	2.15
Turkey Lira	24290.0	22790.0
USA $	1.594	1.464

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

Unit trust sales hit record in December

By Rose Wild
PERSONAL FINANCE EDITOR

UNIT trust sales reached record levels in December, with net investments of £895 million. After a pause in November while investors waited for the Budget, the December rally confirmed a record breaking year, when net sales of unit trusts reached £9.1 billion. The previous record breaking year was 1987, with £6.3 billion.

The most popular sector with the public was the UK, with the largest number of new launches in the UK balanced fund sector which took £1,053 million. In December there was a distinct rise in the popularity of Far East funds excluding Japan, as Mercury and Schroder launched two substantial funds in the area.

Net sales of PEP unit trusts last year reached £3 billion, more than two-and-a-half times higher than in 1992.

Announcing its figures for 1993, the Association of Unit Trusts and Investment Funds predicted a less spectacular year in 1994, with the market taking a correction at some stage. While investment in unit trusts has risen, the size of the customer base has not, representing a steady 1.5 million savers. By making information about unit trusts more available to the public, the association hopes to increase the size of its share of the personal savings sector from its current 2-3 per cent to 10 per cent by the year 2000.

McDonnell

McDonnell Information Systems Group, which intends to seek a full listing this year, is also known as MDIS and not MISG, as stated yesterday.



Sir Brian Hill, left, and Graham Smith believe Goldsborough can grow substantially

Nursing home group to float

By Sarah Bagnall

GOLDSBOROUGH Healthcare is the latest nursing home company planning to float on the stock market with a placing and public offer which will value it at about £75 million.

Next month's flotation is expected to raise about £30 million for the company and £30 million for existing shareholders, NatWest Ventures and Kunick, the amusement machines-to-nursing homes group. Kunick plans to sell its 50 per cent holding, which arose from Goldsborough's purchase of its UK care services business. Natwest Ventures intends to retain up to half its 50 per cent holding.

The flotation proceeds will be used to repay borrowings, leaving Goldsborough with net debt of £7.5 million and paving the way for the group's planned expansion. Sir Brian Hill, chairman, and Graham Smith, chief executive, believe there are substantial growth opportunities in the independent healthcare services market and the flotation will give the company access to financial markets to facilitate this growth.

Goldsborough runs three hospitals, 26 care homes providing 1,238 registered beds and 30 offices arranging care for people in their own homes. The care homes contributed the biggest chunk to Goldsborough's £6.2 million of operating profit for the year to October 3. Homecare services, which arranged about 1.9 million hours of care in 1993, up 29 per cent, and acute hospitals together contributed the £1.5 million balance. Turnover from continuing operations rose from £23.8 million to £29.3 million, helped by a strong performance from the care homes and homecare services.

The company wants to be able to exploit opportunities for acquiring sites to develop new care homes and intends to expand its homecare services network through acquisition or organic growth.

Dow ahead in early trading

New York — Wall Street shares stayed in slightly positive territory in early trading. At midday, the Dow Jones industrial average was up 4.50 points at 3,899.84. Advancing issues led declining shares by ten to eight and US treasuries were narrowly mixed. Phil Orlando, equity portfolio manager at First Capital Advisers, said: "We are having a nice rally in retail, consumer non-durable and banking stocks, and the reason is really attractive relative valuations."

☐ Tokyo — Shares surged on purchases by foreign investors and late buying by dealers, with the Nikkei average ending above psychological resistance at 19,000. Growing hopes that the Japanese Government may pass its political reform bills soon cheered sentiment, brokers said. The Nikkei average closed at 19,138.21, up 489.85 points. *(Reuter)*

	Jan 26 midday	Jan 25 close
AMP Inc	63	63
AMR Corp	68	68
Abbott Labs	28	28
Aetna Life	58	58
Ahmanson (HF)	18	18
Air Prod & Chem	48	48
Albertson's	26	26
Alcan Aluminum	23	22
Alco Standard	57	57
Allied Signal	77	77
Alum Co of Am	76	75
Amax Gold Inc	7	7
Amerada Hess	45	48
Amer Brands	34	34
Amer Cyanamid	49	48
Amer El Power	35	35
Amer Express	32	32
Amer Genl Corp	28	28
Amer Home Pr	63	64
Amer Intl	91¼	90
Amer Stores	42	43
Amer T & T	55	55
Ameritech	38	38
Amoco	54	53
Anheuser-Busch	48	48
Apple Computer	33	33
Archer Daniels	26	26
Arkla	8	8
Armco	6	6
Armstrong Wrld	55	56
Asarco	23	24
Ashland Oil	37	37
Atl Richfield	108	107
Auto Data Pro	52	52
Avery Dennison	28	27
Avon Products	53	52
Baker Hughes	20	20
Baltim Gas & El	24	23
Banc One	36	35
BankAmerica	44	44
Bank of NY	54	54
Bankers Tr NY	80	78
Barnett Banks	40	40
Bausch & Lomb	50	48
Baxter Intl	23	23
Bectn Dickinsn	34	34
Bell Atlantic	58	57
BellSouth	58	57
Black & Decker	20	21¼
Block (H&R)	43	43
Boeing	42	43
Boise Cascade	25	25
Borden Inc	15	14
Bristol Myrs Sq	58	58
Browning Ferris	28	28
Brunswick	19	19
Burlington Nthn	63	64
CBS	290	289
CNA Financial	78	78
CPC Intl	47	47
CSX	88	88
Campbell Soup	39	38
Can Pacific	17	17
Cptl Cities ABC	668	664
Cptl Holdings	34	34
Carolina Pwr	28	27
Caterpillar	99	98
Central & SW	28	29
Champion Intl	32	32
Chase Manhtn	35	34
Chemical Bk	37	37
Chevron Corp	92	92
Chrysler	59	59
Chubb Corp	81½	81½
Cigna Corp	66	66
Citicorp	40	39
Clorox	51	51
Coastal Corp	29	29
Coca Cola	41	40
Colgate-Palmolive	59	59
Columbia Gas	24	24
Commonw Ed	27	27
Compaq Comp	80	83
Comp Ass Int	38	38
Conagra	26	26
Cons Edison	30	30
Cons Nat Gas	44	44
Cons Rail	66	66
Cooper Inds	40	41½
Corning Inc	30	30
Crown Cork	38	38
Dana Corp	57	57
Dayton Hudson	66	66
Deere	78	79
Delta Air Lines	54	53
Deluxe Corp	35	36
Detroit Edison	29	28
Digital Equip	31	31
Dillard Dept St	34	34
Disney (Walt)	47	47
Dominion Res	42	41
Donnelley (RR)	31	31
Dover Corp	60	59
Dow Chemical	61	61
Dow Jones	39	39
Dresser	20	21
Duke Power	41	40
Dun & Bradstreet	63	62
Du Pont	54	54
Eastman Kodak	42	42

	Jan 26 midday	Jan 25 close
Eaton Corp	57	57
Emerson Elec	62	62
Engelhard Corp	25	25
Enron Corp	32	31
Ethyl Corp	18	18
Exxon	66	66
FMC Corp	49	49
FPL Group	36	35
Federal Express	73	72
Fed Nat Mtge	84	83
First Chicago	44	43
Fstn Interstate	66	65
First Union Rlty	10	10
Fleet Finl Grp	33	33
Fluor Corp	43	43
Ford Motor	64	65
GTE Corp	34	33
Gannett	57	57
Gap Inc Del	40	41
Gen Dynamics	92	91
Gen Electric	106	107
Gen Mills	59	59
Gen Motors	58	59
Gen Reinsurance	110	108
Gen Signal	35	36
Genuine Parts	37	38
Georgia Pac	74	74
Gillette	60	60
Glaxo ADR	20	19
Goodrich (BF)	40	40
Goodyear Tire	47	48
Grace (WR)	42	43
Grt Atl Pac Tea	24	24
Great Wstn Fin	18	18
Halliburton	30	31
Harcourt General	34	34
Heinz (HJ)	35	34
Hercules	108	109
Hershey Foods	48	48
Hewlett Packard	82	83
Hilton Hotels	63	63
Home Depot	37	37
Homestake Mng	23	22
Honeywell	32	32
Household Intl	31	32
Houston Inds	44	44
Humana	18	18
ITT Corp	95	95
Illinois Tool	42	43
INCO	27	27
Ingersoll Rand	37	37
Inland Steel	34	35
Intel Corp	65	65
IBM	56	58
Intl Flav & Fr	38	38
Intl Paper	73	74
James River Va	19	19
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	41	40
K Mart	19	19
Kellogg	56	55
Kerr-McGee	46	46
Kimberly-Clark	55	55
Knight-Ridder	57	57
Lilly (Eli)	59	58
Limited Inc	18	17
LIN Brdcstng	112	112
Lincoln Nat	41	41
Litton	66	68
Liz Claiborne	21	21
Lockheed Corp	63	63
Louisiana Pac	43	44
MCI Commun	27	27
Marriott Int	27	27
Marsh & McLnn	81	80
Masco Corp	37	37
May Dept St	38	38
Maytag Corp	18	18
McCaw Cellular	52	52
McDonalds	59	59
McDonnell D	108	106
McGraw Hill	67	67
Mead Corp	47	47
Medtronic	81	81
Mellon Bk	53	54
Melville Corp	39	39
Merck Inc	35	35
Merrill Lynch	40	39
Minnesota Mine	110	110
Mobil Corp	80	79
Monsanto	75	75
Morgan (JP)	69	68
Motorola Inc	101	101
Natl Medical	15	15
Natl Semi	18	18
Natl Service Ind	26	26
Navistar Int	25	25
NBD Bancorp	28	28
NY Times A	27	27
Newmont Mng	55	54
Niag Mohawk	19	18
Nike B	51	51
NL Industries	6	7
Nordstrom	33	32
Norfolk Sthrn	73	73
Nthn State Pwr	42	41
Norwest Corp	25	25
Nynex Corp	39	39
Occidental Pet	18	18
Ohio Edison	21	21
Oracle Systems	33	32

	Jan 26 midday	Jan 25 close
Oryx Energy Co	17	18
Owens Corning	42	40
PNC Financial	28	28
PPG Industries	76	76
Paccar Inc	61	60
Pacificorp	18	18
Pac Enterprises	22	22
Pac Gas & Elect	33	32
Pac Telesis	56	55
Pall Corp	19	19
Panhandle East	24	24
Paramnt Comm	79	79
Parker Hannifin	37	37
Penney (JC)	51	51
Pennzoil	53	53
Pepsico	39	39
Pfizer	62	62
Phelps Dodge	52	53
Philadel Elec	29	29
Philip Morris	58	57
Phillips Pet	29	29
Pitney Bowes	41	41
Polaroid	35	35
PriceCostco	18	18
Procter & Gmbl	58	57
Pub Serv E & G	30	30
Quaker Oats	63	63
Ralston Purina	37	37
Raychem Corp	36	36
Raytheon	66	66
Reebok Intl	32	33
Reynolds Metals	50	49
Roadway Svcs	67	65
Rockwell Intl	39	38
Rohm & Haas	56	57
Royal Dutch	107	108
Rubbermaid	30	31
Safeco Corp	56	55
St Paul's Cos	87	86
Salomon Inc	45	44
Santa Fe Pac	24	24
Sara Lee Corp	24	24
Scecorp	19	18
Schering Plough	63	62
Schlumberger	58	57
Scott Paper	44	43
Seagram	29	29
Sears Roebuck	53	52
Shell Trans	64	65
Sherwin Wlims	34	34
Skyline Corp	21	21
Snap-On-Tools	41	41
Southern Co	42	42
Sthwestern Bell	38	38
Sprint Corp	36	36
Stanley Works	42	42
Sun Company	31	31
Sun Microsys	25	25
Suntrust	45	45
Supervalu	38	38
Syntex Corp	15	15
Sysco Corp	27	27
TRW Inc	74	74
Tandem Comp	13	13
Tandy Corp	44	43
Telecom Corp	3	3
Teledyne	25	25
Temple Inland	52	53
Tenneco	54	54
Texaco	65	65
Texas Inst	71	72
Texas Utilities	39	38
Textron	58	58
Time Warner	39	39
Times-Mirror	36	36
Timken	36	36
Torchmark	47	47
Toys R Us	36	36
Transamerica	54	54
Travelers	39	39
Tribune	59	59
Tyco Labs	50	49
UAL Corp	144	143
UST Inc	28	28
USX Marathon	17	17
Unilever NV	116	115
Union Camp	48	48
Union Carbide	24	24
Union Pacific	62	61
Unisys Corp	13	13
USAir Group	14	14
USF&G Corp	14	13
US Life	38	38
US West	42	42
United Tech	64	64
Unocal Corp	28	28
Upjohn	29	29
VF Corp	46	46
WMX Tech	29	29
Wal-Mart Stores	25	24
Warner-Lambert	64	64
Wells Fargo	131	129
Westinghouse El	14	14
Weyerhaeuser	48	48
Whirlpool	65	64
Whitman	15	15
Winn Dixie	50	50
Woolworth	25	25
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	44	45
Xerox	92	92

RISES:

Meyer Int	563p (+13p)
Haynes Pub	485p (+22p)
Transatlantic	438p (+18p)
Tomkinsons	312p (+18p)
Domino	520p (+32p)
Govett	424p (+15p)

FALLS:

Greenalls Group	470p (-13p)
Land Sec	735p (-10p)
Powell Duffryn	682p (-11p)
Vodafone	584p (-10p)
Wm Low	174p (-17p)
Kingfisher	653p (-10p)
Storehouse	239p (-10p)
Rugby Group	339p (-10p)
Travis Perkins	349p (-12p)
Commercial Union	682p (-10p)
Hogg Group	130p (-22p)
Fairline Boats	375p (-15p)
Wace	245p (-11p)

Closing Prices Page 30

RECENT ISSUES

Baring Emrg Euro	70	-½
Baring Emrg Eur Wts	44	-1½
Fairbairn Euro Smlr (100)	98	...
Finsbury U/writing Inv	113	...
For & Col Smaller (100)	118½	+1
Friends Prov Ethical (60)	60	...
Friends Prov Uts (120)	126	...
Friends Prov Zero Pf (60)	62½	...
Murray Ent Wts	50	-1
Pantheon Wts	83	...
Pilot Inv C (100)	113	...
Rackwood (40)	45	...
Rossmont (10)	11½	...
Securitd End Cont (60)	74	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Anglo Irish n/p (48)	19	...
Cementone n/p (73)	15	...
Crest Nicholson n/p (88)	14	...
Europe Energy n/p (5)	6	...
Halkin n/p (68)	1½	...
Ramus n/p (25)	1½	...

FT-SE VOLUMES

ASDA Gp	11,000	Cadbury	2,500	MEPC	1,400	Scot Power	884
Abbey Natl	7,300	Caradon	1,300	Marks Spr	4,300	Sears	3,900
Alld-Lyons	1,800	Carlton Cms	1,100	NFC	206	Svrn Trent	3,000
Anglian W	3,600	Coats Vyla	13	NatWst Bk	4,000	Shell Trans	5,700
Argyll Gp	5,200	Cm Union	1,500	Nat Power	2,200	Siebe	2,300
Arjo Wiggn	1,500	Courtaulds	1,400	Nth Wst W	1,400	SmKl Bch	3,600
AB Foods	933	Emerpr Oil	671	Nthrn Fds	1,900	Smith Nph	1,700
BAA	1,500	Forte	1,100	P & O	6,400	Sthrn Elec	963
BAT Inds	8,800	GRE	2,000	Pearson	3,100	Std Chartd	274
BOC	1,100	GUS	1,400	PowerGen	1,000	Sun Allnce	4,300
BP	10,000	Gen Acc	359	Prudential	3,000	TI Gp	521
BTR	10,000	Gen Elec	10,000	RMC	783	TSB	3,200
BT	8,300	Glaxo	7,700	RTZ	2,700	Tesco	4,900
Bk of Scot	1,600	Granada	956	Rank Org	1,200	Thames W	1,800
Barclays	3,400	Grand Met	3,500	Reckitt Col	760	Thrn EMI	773
Bass	2,000	Guinness	4,000	Redland	1,300	Tomkins	2,000
Blue Circle	3,400	HSBC	4,100	Reed Intl	1,100	Unilever	500
Boots	1,600	Hanson	10,000	Rentokil	1,100	Utd Bisc	1,400
Bowater	1,900	ICI	1,600	Reuters	1,500	Vodafone	2,200
Brit Aero	2,000	Inchcape	779	Rolls Royce	4,300	Wrorg (SG)	856
Brit Airwys	9,100	Kingfisher	1,800	Ryl Ins	2,400	Wellcome	2,900
Brit Gas	10,000	Ladbroke	2,100	Ryl Bk Scot	347	Whitbrd 'A'	851
Brit Steel	32,000	Land Secs	2,100	Sainsbury	2,900	Wllms Hld	516
Burmah Ctrl	246	Legal & Gn	1,100	Schroders	28	Wolseley	787
Cable Wire	5,100	Lloyds Bk	2,500	Scot & New	1,500	Zeneca	2,100

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones .... 3899.84 (+4.50)
S&P Composite .... 472.51 (+1.59)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Av'ge .... 19138.21 (+489.85)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng .... 11239.57 (-251.37)

Amsterdam:
EOE Index .... 425.62 (-0.67)

Sydney: AO .... Closed

Frankfurt:
DAX .... 2119.17 (-7.01)

FT 30 share: .... 2641.1 (-5.2)

Brussels:
General .... 7710.22 (+2.86)

Paris: CAC-40 .... 2282.35 (+4.01)

Zurich: SKA Gen .... 729.80 (+2.40)

London:
FT A All-Share .... 1724.56 (-4.00)
FT Non Financials .... 1833.93 (-2.84)
FT Gold Mines .... 225.3 (-0.8)
FT Fixed Interest .... 133.09 (-0.57)
FT Govt Secs .... 106.51 (-0.44)
Bargains 35724
SEAQ Volume 829.3m
USM (Datastrm) .... 164.25 (+0.28)

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
January 24	February 4	April 21	May 3

Call options were taken out on 26/1/94: Alvis, Bula Res, Filofax, FNFC, Hanson Wts, YJ Lovell, Rodime, Seafield, Shandwick.
Puts: FNFC, LIG.
Puts & Calls: Bula Res, Kunick, LIG, Wiggins Group.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume
FT-SE 100	Mar 94	3444.0	3460.0	3430.0	3441.0	16245
Previous open interest: 75007	Jun 94				3456.5	0
Three Month Sterling	Mar 94	94.67	94.69	94.66	94.66	7326
Previous open interest: 428939	Jun 94	94.89	94.91	94.86	94.87	11684
	Sep 94	94.93	94.94	94.90	94.90	2520
Three Mth Eurodollar	Mar 94	96.64	96.64	96.63	96.65	314
Previous open interest: 10493	Jun 94	96.34	96.34	96.33	96.35	271
Three Mth Euro DM	Mar 94	94.39	94.41	94.36	94.38	20931
Previous open interest: 872911	Jun 94	94.82	94.87	94.79	94.85	39092
Long Gilt	Mar 94	119-15	119-20	118-23	119-02	125473
Previous open interest: 103623	Jun 94	118-25	118-29	118-14	118-14	21
Japanese Govmt Bond	Mar 94	113.65	114.45	113.60	114.28	4465
	Jun 94	112.80	113.21	112.80	113.22	115
German Gov Bd Bund	Mar 94	99.78	100.22	99.74	100.14	202710
Previous open interest: 166577	Jun 94	99.76	100.11	99.75	100.10	2030
German Gov Bd Bobl	Mar 94	102.75	102.97	102.75	102.93	1112
Previous open interest: 10097	Jun 94					0
Three month ECU	Mar 94	93.96	93.97	93.94	93.95	987
Previous open interest: 36046	Jun 94	94.48	94.49	94.44	94.46	612
Euro Swiss Franc	Mar 94	96.19	96.22	96.17	96.19	4118
Previous open interest: 57077	Jun 94	96.48	96.49	96.45	96.47	1629
Italian Govmt Bond	Mar 94	118.62	118.83	118.43	118.56	38676
Previous open interest: 90935	Jun 94	118.91	118.95	118.81	118.77	880

Exchange index compared with 1985 was down at 82.4 (day's range 82.4-82.6).

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Jan 26	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.9188-2.9307	2.9188-2.9223	1/4pr-1/8ds	1/4pr-par
Brussels	53.92-54.12	53.92-54.03	6-11ds	19-24ds
Copenhagen	10.1250-10.1690	10.1250-10.1450	3/4-1 1/4ds	1 1/2-2 3/4ds
Dublin	1.0380-1.0415	1.0394-1.0414	4-8ds	14-19ds
Frankfurt	2.6067-2.6168	2.6082-2.6116	1/8-3/8ds	1/2-3/4ds
Lisbon	261.72-262.60	261.72-262.35	114-131ds	302-351ds
Madrid	210.93-212.09	211.37-211.67	65-71ds	172-188ds
Milan	2534.10-2543.40	2537.80-2541.80	6-8ds	18-20ds
Montreal	1.9600-1.9662	1.9600-1.9629	0.32-0.26pr	0.58-0.50pr
New York	1.4930-1.4970	1.4930-1.4940	0.31-0.29pr	0.82-0.80pr
Oslo	11.2010-11.2390	11.2070-11.2230	1/4pr-par	1 1/8-1 1/4pr
Paris	8.8460-8.8840	8.8490-8.8630	5/8-7/8ds	1 7/8-2 1/4ds
Stockholm	11.8810-11.9310	11.8830-11.9070	1 7/8-2 1/4ds	4 3/4-5 1/4ds
Tokyo	164.52-165.61	164.52-164.79	1 1/2-1 1/4pr	1 3/4-1 1/2pr
Vienna	18.33-18.40	18.33-18.37	1/2-3/4ds	7/8-1ds
Zurich	2.1946-2.2021	2.1962-2.1992	3/8-1/4pr	7/8-5/8pr

Source: Extel Premium - pr. Discount - ds.

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.4923-1.4948
Australia dollar	2.1005-2.1050
Bahrain dinar	0.5575-0.5695
Brazil cruzeiro *	638.89-640.53
Cyprus pound	0.77-0.78
Finland marka	8.323-8.438
Greece drachma	371.75-378.75
Hong Kong dollar	11.5343-11.5436
India rupee	46.48-47.44
Kuwait dinar KD	0.441-0.451
Malaysia ringgit	4.1077-4.1136
Mexico peso	4.58-4.68
New Zealand dollar	2.6224-2.6289
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.5445-5.6705
Singapore dollar	2.3876-2.3908
S Africa rand (fin)	6.5393-6.6185
S Africa rand (com)	5.0968-5.1048
U A E dirham	5.4305-5.5545

Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Australia	1.4065-1.4085
Austria	12.28-12.29
Belgium (Com)	36.14-36.18
Canada	1.3146-1.3156
Denmark	6.7885-6.7935
France	5.9275-5.9325
Germany	1.7474-1.7484
Hong Kong	7.723-7.724
Ireland	1.4346-1.4376
Italy	1697.3-1698.8
Japan	110.28-110.38
Malaysia	2.751-2.753
Netherlands	1.95-1.96
Norway	7.5065-7.5075
Portugal	175.33-175.63
Singapore	1.5987-1.5997
Spain	141.38-141.48
Sweden	7.962-7.972
Switzerland	1.4705-1.4715

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 5½ Finance Hse 5½
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 6 Low 5½ Week fixed: 5¼
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 5 1/16; 3 mth 5. Sell: 2 mth 5; 3 mth 4 31/32

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis)	5 1/32-5 1/32	5 1/16-5 1/32	5 1/16-5 1/16	5-4 15/16	
Sterling Money Rates	5½-5¼	5¼-5 1/32	5 1/32-5 1/32	5¼-5¼	5 1/16-5¼
Interbank	5½-5¼	5¼-5¼	5 1/32-5¼	5¼-5¼	5 1/16-5¼
Overnight: open 5½, close 6¼					
Local Authority Deps	5½	n/a	5½	5¼	5¼
Sterling CDs	5 1/32-5 1/16	5¼-5 1/16	5 1/16-5 1/32	5¼-5 1/16	5 1/16-5¼
Dollar CDs	3.04-3.01	n/a	3.10-3.07	3.25-3.22	3.63-3.61
Building Society CDs	5¼-5½	5 1/32-5 11/32	5 1/32-5 11/32	5¼-5¼	5-5¼

ECGD: Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance. Make-up day: Dec 31, 1993. Agreed rates Jan 26, 1994 to Feb 25, 1994 Scheme III: 6.65%. Reference rate Dec 1, 1993 to Dec 31, 1993. Scheme IV & V: 5.375%.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	3-2¾	3¼-2¾	3¼-3	3¼-3¼	3¼-2¾
Deutschemark	6¼-5¾	6¼-5¾	5 15/16-5 13/16	5 11/16-5 9/16	6¼-5¾
French Franc	6¼-6¼	6¼-6¼	6 7/16-6 5/16	6 1/16-5 15/16	7¼-6¼
Swiss Franc	4¼-4	4¼-4 1/16	4 1/16-3 15/16	3¼-3¼	4¼-3¼
Yen	2¼-2 1/16	2¼-2 1/16	2¼-2 1/16	2¼-2	2¼-1¾

GOLD

Bullion: Open $381.00-381.40 Close: $383.45-383.95 High: $384.10-384.60 Low: $379.90-380.40 Krugerrand: $382.00-384.50 (£256.00-258.00)

Sovereigns: Old $89.00-91.00 (£59.50-61.50) New $89.00-91.00 (£59.50-61.50)

Platinum: $380.00 (£254.45) Silver: $5.14 (£3.445) Palladium: $124.00 (£83.05)

LIFFE OPTIONS

Series		Calls Jan	Apr	Jul	Puts Jan	Apr	Jul
Alld Lyon	650	5	34	45½	1½	23	41
(*652½)	700	1	13½	24	49	54½	72
Argyll	260	16	26½	33	1	9½	17½
(*274)	280	1	15½	22	8	19	28
ASDA	60	2	8	9½	1	4½	6½
(*62½)	70	1	4	6	8½	10½	12
Boots	550	16	41	51	1	16½	28½
(*563½)	600	1	13½	24	39	45½	56½
Br Airways	460	13	33½	45	1	18	29½
(*471)	500	1	15	26	31	40½	52
BP	360	10	25	33	1	14½	20½
(*369)	390	1	11	20	23	30	36
Br Steel	130	3	11	15½	1	8	12
(*132)	140	1	6½	11½	9½	14	18
C & W	500	26½	43½	57½	2	15	25
(*521½)	525	3½	28½	44	7	26½	36½
CU	650	35	45½	61½	1	15½	24½
(*682)	700	1	17½	35½	21	42½	50½
ICI	750	27½	48	61½	1	33	43½
(*774½)	800	1	21	38	28½	63	72
Kingfisher	650	6	38½	51½	3½	29½	39
(*651½)	700	1	17	34	51½	60	69½
Land Sec	700	38	55	60½	1	9	19½
(*735)	750	1	25	30½	18	31	45
M & S	420	24	36	42½	1	8	15
(*442½)	460	1	14	21½	19	27½	35
Nat West	550	46	53	63½	1	12	19
(*593½)	600	1½	21½	39½	9½	36	43½
Sainsbury	420	29	42½	50	1	9½	18½
(*446½)	460	1	19	28½	15	27	39
Shell	700	25	37	50	1	18½	27
(*723½)	750	1	12½	26	29	49½	55
Smkl Bch	420	11	32	44½	1½	22	31½
(*428½)	460	1	15	27½	34	46	55
Storehse	240	3	15½	22½	2	11½	17
(*240)	260	1	7	13	20½	26	29
Trafalgar	97	9	16	21	1	6	9½
(*109)	106	1	11	—	2½	10½	14
Unilever	1150	48½	70	88½	1	24½	46
(*1193½)	1200	2½	36	59½	9	49½	61
Zeneca	800	2	34½	52½	2	42½	53
(*800½)	850	2	16	32½	51½	78	85½

Series		Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
Grnd Met	460	20½	32	41½	12	20½	27
(*466)	500	5½	14	23	38	43½	49½
Ladbroke	200	12	18½	23½	7	17½	22½
(*202½)	220	4	10½	15½	21	31	35½
Utd Bisc	360	25	31	37½	5½	15½	22
(*378)	390	7½	14½	23½	18½	33	39

Series		Calls Jan	Apr	Jul	Puts Jan	Apr	Jul
BAA	1000	26	62	80	1	22½	42
(*1023)	1050	1	35½	53	30½	50½	66½
Thames W	550	22	39½	48½	1	15½	26½
(*569½)	600	1	13½	22½	33	40	57½

Series		Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
BAT Ind	500	28½	44	46½	7	22	32½
(*519)	550	6½	16½	23½	35	53½	63
BTR	330	31	35	41½	2½	9½	13
(*356½)	360	9	16	24½	12	23	37
Br Aero	420	28½	46	59	10½	28	37½
(*436)	460	9	27½	40½	32½	50½	60
Br Telcm	420	41½	49½	56½	1½	4½	11½
(*457½)	460	10½	22	30½	11	17½	26
Cadbury	493	39	44	—	2½	13½	—
(*526)	542	7½	16	—	22	39	—
Guinness	500	33	45½	54½	8½	22½	28
(*525)	550	8	30	30½	35	50	50½
GEC	330	16	24	30	4½	10½	16½
(*340)	360	3	9	15	23	26½	33½
Hanson	260	21½	24½	27½	1½	5½	9
(*279)	280	7	12½	16½	7½	14	18
LASMO	120	9	16½	22	7	13½	17½
(*122)	130	5	12	17	14	19½	23½
Lucas	200	17	23½	29	3½	9½	13½
(*212)	220	5½	12½	18½	13	20½	24
Pilkingtn	180	16	22½	27	3½	9½	12
(*191½)	200	4½	11½	16½	13½	19½	22½
Prudential	330	29	32½	37	2	9	13½
(*354)	360	8½	14	21	13	25	28½
Redland	600	40½	54	61½	6½	25	35
(*630½)	650	12	27	37	29½	53	62
Royal Ins	317	17½	—	—	6½	—	—
(*327)	346	4½	—	—	24	—	—
Tesco	220	15	22	26½	5½	13	15½
(*229½)	240	4½	11½	16½	15½	24½	27
Vodafone	550	46	66	77½	7	21½	33
(*583½)	600	16½	36	52	30	45	58½
Williams	390	25	33½	40	4	14	19½
(*408½)	420	7½	17	25	18	31	35½

FT-SE INDEX (*3436½)

	3300	3350	3400	3450	3500	3550
Calls						
Feb	—	115	80	50	29	16
Mar	174	137	105	76	55	38
Apr	191	153	124	95	75	54
May	211	177	147	118	96	76
Jun	230	—	166	—	113	—
Puts						
Feb	16	25	39	61	92	134
Mar	35	48	66	88	117	151
Apr	50	64	84	106	134	165
May	66	82	102	122	150	181
Jun	79	—	114	—	162	—

Series		Calls Mar	Jun	Sep	Puts Mar	Jun	Sep
Abby Nat	500	23½	31½	42	19½	26½	35
(*506)	550	5	12½	22	56½	60	65½
Amstrad	45	5	7½	9½	3½	5½	7
(*46½)	50	3	5½	7½	6½	8	9½
Barclays	600	42	52	64½	17½	25	35
(*625)	650	16½	28	41	44½	52	61½
Blue Circ	360	33½	40½	48½	9½	20½	29
(*380½)	390	15½	25½	33½	24	36½	45
Br Gas	330	23½	29½	33½	5½	13½	17
(*344½)	360	7	14	20	21	31	34
Dixons	220	16	24½	30	11	16	23½
(*222)	240	7½	16	22	23	27½	35½
Forte	260	16½	21½	29½	9½	18	23
(*265)	280	8	12½	21	21½	30½	34½
Hillsdwn	180	13	16	19½	7	15	17
(*183)	200	5	8	12	20½	29	30½
Lonrho	140	21	27½	32½	5	9	14
(*157)	160	10½	16	23	14	19	25
Sears	130	8½	12½	14	5½	9	11
(*131)	140	4	7½	9	12	15½	17
Thm Emi	1100	43	70	87	32	47½	68
(*1101½)	1150	21	46½	63	63½	75	97½
Tomkins	260	21	29	34½	6	10½	16½
(*273½)	280	9½	17	24	15	19½	26½
TSB	280	11	20½	26½	14	21	26
(*280)	300	4½	12	18½	30	33½	38
Wellcome	650	49½	67	88	23	41	52½
(*669½)	700	25	45	63	50½	68	78½

Series		Apr	Jul	Oct	Apr	Jul	Oct
Glaxo	650	50½	73	85	33½	48½	62½
(*668)	700	27½	50½	62½	62½	76	91½
HSBC	900	77	102½	121	39	59	72½
(*943½)	950	50½	77½	98½	62½	80½	101
Reuter	1900	122	176	213	69	96	120
(*1958½)	1950	94½	150	187	94½	120½	143½

Series		Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
R-Royce	176	15	—	—	4	—	—
(*185)	195	4½	—	—	14½	—	—

Series		Mar	Jun	Sep	Mar	Jun	Sep
Fisons	140	13½	19½	25	12	18	23
(*140)	160	6	12½	17	26	31	35

Series		Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
Eastrn Elc	650	43½	59	69½	5	15	27½
(*684½)	700	15	31	43½	26½	35	50½

Series		Mar	Jun	Sep	Mar	Jun	Sep
Natl Pwr	460	35½	47½	57½	12	22	32
(*479)	500	14½	27½	38½	32	44	54
Scot Pwr	420	37	48½	57½	7	14	23½
(*450½)	460	14½	26	36½	29½	32½	43½

January 26, 1994 Tot: 50832 Call: 39840 Put: 10992 FT-SE Call: 8409 Put: 5663
*Underlying security price.

COMMODITIES

GNI REPORT: Aluminium surged close to five and a half month highs on the LME following reports that the Russian government are recommending that its producers cut output by 500,000 tonnes per year as part of a global output accord to lower supply by up to 2 mln tonnes in 1994. It is now possible that a communique could be agreed by the weekend, and then traders will be anxious to see if it is actually implemented.

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

Mar	913-912	May	971-970
May	912-911	Jul	981-978
Jul	919-918	Sep	990-988
Sep	931-930	Dec	1010-995
Dec	947-946		
Mar	961-960	Volume:	3597

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Jan	1180-1178	Sep	1186-1182
Mar	1185-1184	Nov	1183-1181
May	1191-1190	Jan	1183-1181
Jul	1181-1180	Volume:	4098

NO.7 PREMIUM RAW SUGAR ($.00pm)

		Oct	10.91-11.10
Spot: 254.50		Jan	10.76-11.30
Mar	10.50-10.55	Mar	10.61-11.50
May	11.05-11.07	May	10.01-11.80
Jul	11.26-11.31	Volume:	140

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Oct	282.9-82.2
Spot: 292.0		Dec	282.4-80.2
Mar	290.6-90.0	Mar	283.4-80.8
May	290.0-89.4	May	285.4-80.8
Aug	294.7-94.0	Volume:	1425

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on January 26

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	66.58	101.85	120.74
(+/-)	-1.08	+0.91	-0.42
Eng/Wales:	66.59	102.22	120.39
(+/-)	-1.10	+1.19	-0.48
(%)	-2.6	-2.3	-7.9
Scotland:	65.39	100.69	122.29
(+/-)	+1.48	+0.09	-0.03
(%)	-9.0	+20.6	-17.3

LONDON MEAT FUTURES
Live Pig (/kg)

	Open	Close		Open	Close
Aug	unq		Mar	unq	
Sep	unq			Volume: 0	

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)

Mar	100.10
May	101.15
Jun	101.40
Sep	90.35
Nov	91.50
Volume:	458

BARLEY (close £/t)

Mar	103.75
May	105.25
Sep	92.50
Nov	94.50
Jan	96.75
Volume:	5

HI-PRO SOYA (close £/t)

Aug	unq
Oct	—
Dec	—
Feb	—
Apr	—
Volume:	0

POTATO

(£/t)	Open	Close
Mar	unq	135.0
Apr	110.2	110.8
May	131.0	130.4
	Volume:	158

RUBBER
No 1 RSS Cif (p/k)
Feb 62.25-62.75

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm): The weekly American stock figures showed much lower stocks of heating oil, this caused all prices to firm.

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	14.75	+0.25
Brent 15 day (Feb)	14.75	+0.25
Brent 15 day (Mar)	14.30	+0.20
W Texas Intermediate (Mar)	15.45	+0.25
W Texas Intermediate (Apr)	15.45	+0.20

PRODUCTS ($/MT)
Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

Premium Gas .15	Bid: 147 (+1)	Offer: 150 (+2)
Gasoil EEC	145 (n/c)	146 (n/c)
Non EEC 1H Feb	147 (+2)	149 (+2)
Non EEC 1H Mar	148 (+2)	150 (+2)
3.5 Fuel Oil	66 (n/c)	68 (n/c)
Naphtha	132 (+1)	134 (+1)

IPE FUTURES
GNI Ltd
GAS OIL

Feb	144.25-44.50	May	143.00-43.25
Mar	145.00-45.25	Jun	143.00-43.50
Apr	144.00-44.25	Jul	144.00-44.75
			Vol: 13984

BRENT (6.00pm)

Mar	14.29-14.30	Jun	14.29-14.32
Apr	14.16-14.17	Jul	14.41 SLR
May	14.20 SLR		Vol: 34522

UNLEADED GASOLINE

Feb	141.50-44.75	May	unq
Mar	unq	Jun	161.00 SLR
Apr	unq		Vol: 0

BIFFEX
GNI Ltd ($10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Jan 94	unq	unq	1216
Feb 94	1198	1190	1193
Mar 94	1220	1200	1215
Apr 94	1250	1231	1243

Vol: 188 lots. Open int'st: 2710 Index 1220 -8

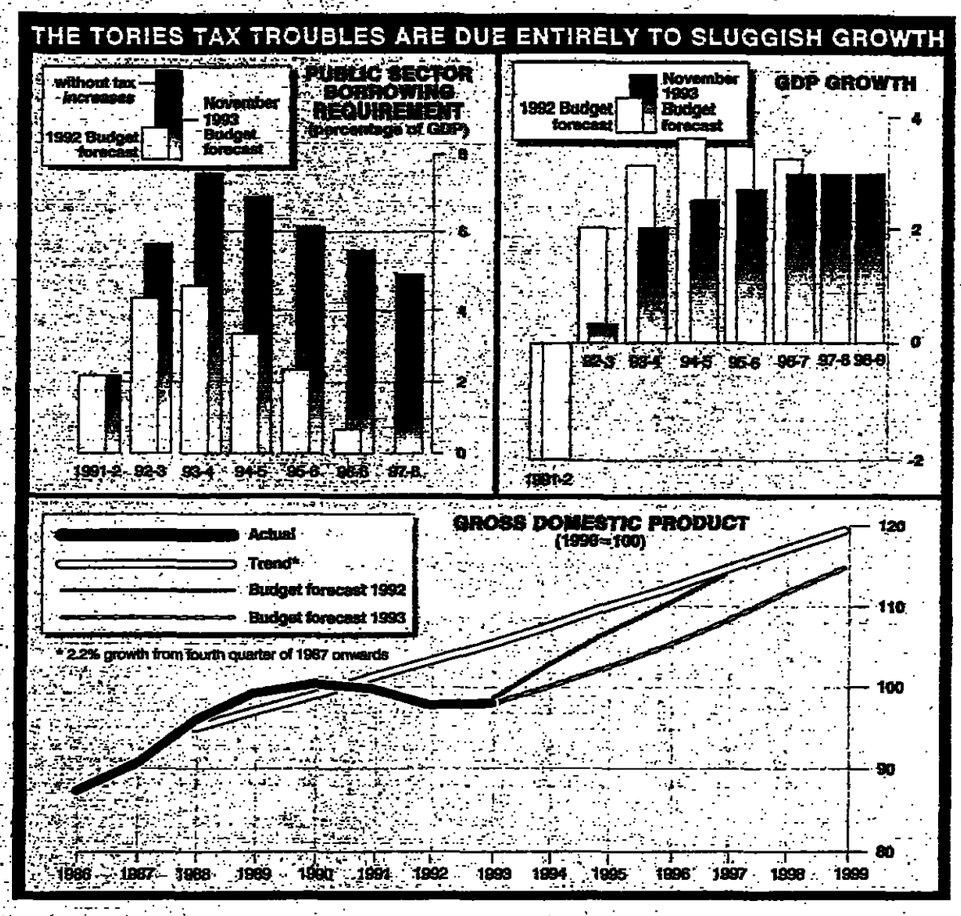
LONDON METAL EXCHANGE Rudolf Wolff
(Official) (Volume prev day)

	Cash	3mth	Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	1839.0-1839.5	1863.0-1863.5	134232
Lead ($/tonne)	506.50-507.00	519.00-520.00	124225
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	996.50-997.00	1015.0-1015.5	489225
Tin ($/tonne)	5080.0-5085.0	5135.0-5136.0	19995
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1203.5-1204.5	1221.5-1222.0	972250
Nickel ($/tonne)	5705.0-5706.0	5762.0-5763.0	58038

ECONOMIC VIEW

Tax — lies or just simple old-fashioned incompetence

Anatole Kaletsky argues that repudiating monetary misjudgments is more important than fiscal deception in the tax equation



Which is worse in a government, stupidity or lying? This simple question sums up the great parliamentary row about the Tories' betrayals on taxes. For me, an old Russian proverb suggests the answer: whom should a girl marry — a fool or a drunkard? In the morning, the drunkard will wake up sober, but the fool will still be a fool. Having launched the debate on the Tories' tax record two weeks ago in this column, let me suggest some ground-rules that might help separate the fools from the liars on both sides of the Tory-Labour divide.

The reason why the public finances have fallen into their present sorry state is, quite simply, Britain's failure to achieve the economic growth forecast in the 1992 Budget. This failure to grow was, in turn, caused directly by the priority given to defending an artificially high level of sterling in the ERM — a policy endorsed enthusiastically by John Smith, as well as John Major. And since White Wednesday, the deflationary policies have continued in another guise, with Kenneth Clarke refusing doggedly to offset his fiscal exactions with sharp reductions in interest rates. The miserable long-term growth rates now assumed by the Treasury in its fiscal planning are the fundamental reason why taxes will have to keep on rising.

First, let me state the upshot of this analysis. Whichever party is the first to repudiate the monetary misjudgments of the ERM era — and to defy the deflationary monetarist dogmas left behind in the Bank of England by this disastrous experience — will be able to claim convincingly that it is the party of low taxes and generous public spending by achieving rapid growth.

The details of the argument are illustrated in the charts. The first chart simply compares Mr Lamont's estimates of the PSBR just before the election with those presented by Mr Clarke last November. Mr Clarke's planned figures are all higher than Mr Lamont's, but the unshaded portions of each bar, which represent the tax increases announced in the two Budgets of 1993, show that without these draconian measures the public deficits would remain at alarming and unsustainable levels as far as the eye can see. In fact, this chart understates the seriousness of the challenge faced by Mr Clarke, since the unshaded portions of each bar represent merely the direct effects of the Budget tax measures announced last year. They take no account of interest on the extra debt that would have been accumulated by 2000 if no steps had been taken to cut public borrowing now.

All this is familiar enough. But why did the fiscal outlook deteriorate so suddenly between March 1992 and 1993? The cynical answer is that Mr Lamont was lying in a vote-grabbing pre-election Budget. But even disregarding the remnants of honest professionalism that still exist among Treasury officials, this answer is unconvincing since most independent forecasters outside the Treasury were producing similar projections for public borrowing in early 1992. Of course, some other economists were publishing more pessimistic figures. But what the pessimists generally disputed at the time was not the Treasury's analysis of public finances, but its forecasts of economic growth.

The way these went wrong is shown in the second chart in the top row. Instead of expanding by 2 per cent, as predicted by Mr Lamont, the economy grew by only 0.2 per cent in the financial year immediately after the election. That shortfall of 1.8 per cent of GDP was on its own sufficient to account for the whole deterioration in the PSBR for 1992-93. This turned out to be 6.1 per cent of GDP, 1.6 percentage points higher than the forecast of March 1992. To make matters worse, the economy has continued to underperform drastically in 1993-94. While ministers may brag about the strength of Britain's recovery, the growth of 2 per cent in the current financial year has actually been *a bitter disappointment compared with* the pre-Budget forecast of 3.2 per cent. Taking the two post-election years together, the combined shortfall in GDP growth relative to the Treasury's 1992 forecasts has been 3 per cent of GDP. This shortfall is, again, exactly consistent with the deterioration in public finances — this year's PSBR of 7.8 per cent of GDP is 3.1 points higher than the pre-election forecast.

Given the poor performance of the economy, there was nothing surprising about the "dreadful hole" in the public finances that greeted Mr Clarke on his arrival at the Treasury. In this sense, Mr Lamont was being less deceptive before the election than he was on the radio yesterday, when he claimed that the Treasury was still perplexed by the drying up of tax revenues in 1992. In truth, there was no mystery: tax revenues fell short because the economy failed to recover after the election. If Messrs Lamont and Major are now to be accused of deception, therefore, attention should focus not on their tax promises but on their promises of economic growth.

These false promises are not just a matter of forecasting errors. They reflect fundamental choices about economic policy that Mr Major quite consciously made. The first of these choices was made soon after the election, when Mr Major decided against the sharp cuts in interest rates that could have stimulated a robust economic revival and chose instead to defend the pound in the ERM. The second was made after White Wednesday, when Mr Major again rejected the option of "going for growth" with an immediate cut in interest rates to 6 or 7 per cent. The third, and perhaps most momentous, choice is still being made.

In the pre-election Budget, the Treasury planned taxes and spending on the assumption that the economy would recover fairly rapidly from recession, with an average growth rate of 3.1 per cent in the first five years of recovery. This would have allowed output to reach its long-term trend level recouping the losses of the recession, by 1997 or 1998. This is shown in the bottom chart, where the trend line shows what would have happened if the economy had grown at a steady annual rate of 2.2 per cent from the fourth quarter of 1987 onwards, avoiding the extremes both of the Lawson boom and the Major bust. In 1993, however, the Treasury's long-term assumptions were drastically revised. Now, growth is expected to average only 2.1 per cent in the first five years of recovery — and even by 1999, the economy will remain far below what was generally assumed even two years ago to be its long-term trend. This sudden reduction in long-term growth projections is the most important reason for the apparently permanent deterioriation in Government finances after the election.

Of course, projections on paper do not directly affect tax revenues or the fiscal outlook. But if the projections reflect the Treasury's attitude to economic policy, then the dismal figures in Mr Clarke's Budget red books are all too likely to be realised. The Chancellor's has repeatedly said that he does not want a period of unsustainable growth, which is arithmetically required for any economy in deep recession to return to its long-term trend. More important have been his actions. In his Budget he specifically rejected the significant cut in interest rates that would have allowed the economic recovery to accelerate next year. Since then, he has celebrated the prospect of 2.5 per cent growth in 1994, as if this would be a triumph, rather than a serious disappointment.

If the Tories are going to pursue macroeconomic policies that trap Britain for years in a limbo of mass unemployment and inadequate growth rates then, of course, they will have to levy extortionate taxes and destroy public services. If that is what Mr Major is now planning then he can fairly be accused of lying at the last election, when he promised that a Tory victory would stimulate unleash rapid growth. As for the Chancellor, so deep is the inconsistency between his words about supporting industry and his relentlessly deflationary actions, that his confusion and ignorance of economics seem quite sincere. So which is it — dishonesty or incompetence? We seem to be suffering from both.

TEMPUS

How Low can you get?

THE supermarket war looks close to claiming its first casualty. William Low's admission that its like-for-like sales and net margins are falling is a reminder that the second division supermarket operators have been caught in the crossfire between the store opening programmes of the majors and the recent round of price cuts.

Low has found it increasingly difficult to defend its Scottish homelands against the major supermarket chains. As Argyll and then Sainsbury extended their superstore opening programmes north of the border, Low's existing in-town stores have been losing their market positions one by one. Now the superstores are becoming cheaper, the drift of Low's customers is accelerating.

Low has tried to compete by opening superstores of its own and held a rights issue in 1990 for that purpose. But it lacks the firepower to compete effectively and is caught in a war of attrition which it cannot win.

The group's decision to cut costs and slow down capital spending is an admission that it is running the business for cash but even so, debts are not likely to fall far. The cutbacks will only dig Low deeper into a competitive hole, but it has little choice.

There remains the chance of a bid, but it is hard to see who would want Low's broad spread of large and small stores in the current climate. The company's profits are likely to fall to £14.5 million this year which means the shares at 174p are trading on 11 times earnings, which is not too far out of line with the rest of the sector. There remains the attraction of a 6 per cent yield, but this is little use when the prospects for capital growth look so slim.

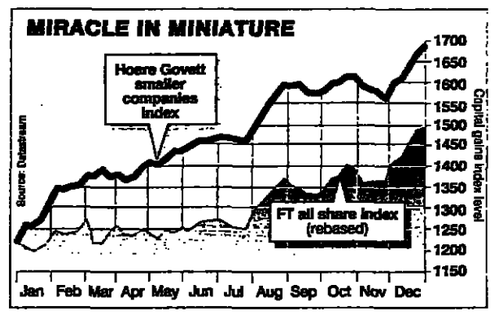
Small companies

AFTER years in the wilderness smaller companies, with market values of less than £300 million, are back in fashion. Hoare Govett's small company index rose by 44 per cent last year and outperformed the FT All-Share index by 16 per cent.

Just as the lack of liquidity sent smaller company shares plummeting during the recession, the same squeeze is helping push prices up now the demand for stock has returned. Indeed, the demand for penny shares is already looking frothy. Witness the gyrations of Specialeyes yesterday, whose shares first soared following a newspaper tip only to slump later following a company profit warning.

There are valid reasons for investing in smaller companies aside from the occasional penny share punt. They are a purer play on the domestic recovery since they have few overseas operations. Also, the Hoare Govett index of 1,500 stocks is overwieght in fashionable capital goods sectors.

Most importantly, small companies have a long record of outperformance. The total return on the HG index since 1955 is 4.3 per cent higher than the All-Share, which is impressive considering that successful small companies become large companies and leave the index. The recent run should continue as long the economic recovery holds, but investors should be wary of the dud companies concealed in the rising froth.



WH Smith

SIR Simon Hornby, chairman of W H Smith, went out with something of a whimper rather than a bang. Interim profits were at the bottom end of City forecasts and little new was said about Do It All, particularly on the subject of the planned rationalisation of the store portfolio.

The biggest disappointment though was the way earlier hints about a full enfranchisement of the shares were left hanging. Following last year's dramatic conversions of GUS and Whitbread, WH Smith remains just about the only large company with a split capital structure and risks being increasingly ostracised by the mainstream investment community unless it takes action.

Otherwise there were reasons to be encouraged from the unspectacular results. The group has established strong market positions in most of its chains which, if aggressively managed, will allow it to deliver lower prices to its customers at lower cost. It can therefore avoid the erosion of margins suffered by other smaller retailers.

Nevertheless, Do It All remains a problem. Although sales rose by 2 per cent in the last quarter of 1993, and by 4 per cent in December, the chain is still making operating losses even at these improved turnover levels. It is also worrying that the differential in performance between the newly revamped stores and the rest of the chain has narrowed. Do It All is unlikely to make money for years, if ever. Moreover, it trails its two biggest competitors by some distance and does not therefore fit in W H Smith's strategy of market leadership — a fact of which the group must be all too painfully aware.

Hogg Group

TRADING statements are a handy way to keep the market updated about a company's progress — just so long as a select band of insiders do not hear the bad news first. Unfortunately this happened at Hogg Group, whose shares slumped 9 per cent on Tuesday, the day before it issued a profit warning. Once again, someone made a great deal of money out of the affair, at the expense of less well-informed shareholders. Unless the Stock Exchange shakes itself out of its torpor and takes direct, public action against insider dealers, such abuses will flourish.

Hogg is beset by a series of problems. It is heavily involved in American retail business, which is one area where rates have hardly hardened, and competition remains severe. Its 1990 acquisition of Downes & Burke, the fine art insurance broker, has proved a thorough disaster and has now been closed. The group has also suffered a series of damaging defections, such as its French wholesale team which left recently. Hogg says it will begin to see the benefits of cost-cutting and the recruitment of key income-producing staff this year. But the group has disappointed the market twice in six months so it is hard to be confident. At 130p, the shares are trading on 14 times even the most optimistic forecast for this year, a similar rating to rather more secure brokers. That looks expensive.

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THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Falconer targets Scott enquiry

WAS the arms-to-Iraq affair little more than a vast money-making exercise for British industry? A former RAF weapons expert claims that the design of Saddam Hussein's supergun was such that it would probably have blown apart after one firing. He points out that the life of a gun barrel is four seconds — satisfactory where milli-seconds are involved, but problematic when the barrel is hundreds of feet long. The upshot? Supergun would have made hundreds of millions of pounds for British industry and done the Iraqis no good whatsoever. The weapons expert? Noel Falconer, former scourge of British Gas, who hit City headlines when he tried to win a seat on the board in his fight for greater shareholder representation. He is very keen to pass on his views to the Scott enquiry. "I put all my professional weight behind this," says Falconer, 60, who spent three-and-a-half years at the Boscombe Down research establishment in Wiltshire. "The best thing you could do if you wanted to damage Iraq's capacity was to give it a gun like that." So far, Lord Justice Scott has declined to answer his letters. And as for British Gas? "I gave up," says Falconer. "British Aerospace is my new target."



John Roberts, left, chairman of BCE Holdings, which makes and distributes snooker and pool tables and accessories and is looking to expand, tests his skills against Jimmy White, the top-rated snooker player, at Earls Court, London, yesterday

Talking shop

OPENING today in Davos, the 1994 World Economic Forum ought to turn out to be considerably more than just another ritual gathering of eminent talking heads from industry, business and government. Notables include Yassir Arafat and Shimon Peres who, together with Prince Ben Talal of Jordan, Lebanon's premier Rafik Hariri, and ministers from Syria, Turkey, Tunisia and Morocco, are expected to push for the establishment of Mefta, a Middle East free trade area on the lines of the free trade zone recently created between Canada, the United States and Mexico. Klaus Schwab, the Swiss who puts together and presides over the Davos forum, placed the job of synthesising the contributions of speakers in the safe hands of former French prime minister Raymond Barre. A further French touch is the participation, tomorrow, of the French economy minister, Edmond Alphandéry, who is braving his arm with a short-term forecast of world economic development.

Plain speaking

DOING business in Spain, France and elsewhere is one thing. Speaking the local lingo is quite another. UK firms that bother to adapt to local markets now have a chance of winning one of eight awards under the DTI's first Languages for Export Awards Scheme, launched by trade minister Richard Needham yesterday. The awards, co-sponsored by the British Overseas Trade Board and companies including British Airways, ICI and Hodder Headline, set out to recognise outstanding achievement in overcoming language and cultural barriers in non-English speaking markets. The awards are open to UK-based exporting firms, employees, language traders and educational institutions.

HOW times have changed. Lightweight Body Armour of Daventry has just won a contract for personal body armour worth £6.8 million — from the German army. This is the third such contract from the Bundeswehr for the company, which supplies the British police with bulletproof vests, and makes the jackets worn by TV correspondents such as the BBC's Martin Bell when reporting from Bosnia and Somalia.

JON ASHWORTH

Wm Low to shed 10% of staff at head office

■ The company will continue to close small, outdated stores and the cost of this will be particularly felt in the first half of the current financial year

BY SUSAN GILCHRIST

EVIDENCE that the food retailing industry is bracing itself for a wave of job losses emerged yesterday as William Low, the Dundee-based supermarket group, announced plans to axe a tenth of its head office staff.

The news confirmed analysts' suspicions that many food retailers will be forced to cut staffing costs to halt the slide in margins caused by intensifying price competition. Philip Dorgan, of Goldman Sachs, said: "All the food retailers will be looking to get rid of a bit of fat. They have expanded so fast, they have not controlled staff numbers in the way they would have done if times had been harder."

Clive Vaughan, a retail analyst at Verdict, echoed this view: "The big chains have been insulated by buoyant sales and profit growth. But last year, they finally admitted they were in for a period of lower profitabiity brought about by price-cutting. They will now be looking to ameliorate the drop in gross margins by finding further cuts in operating costs."

Tesco refused to comment on reports that it plans to cut 500 jobs as a result of the scaling back of its superstore expansion programme. Sainsbury is also thought to be about to make redundancies among the 2,000 staff at its London headquarters. Some analysts are speculating that Argyll, which operates the Safeway supermarket chain, may also disclose job losses when it gives a trading update next month.

Philip Spicer, chief executive of William Low, said the job cuts would fall across the group, with the loss of 41 posts at head office — 10 per cent of the staff. There will be further cuts and a reduction in working hours at distribution depots and stores. Mr Spicer said rationalisation costs would not be "material".

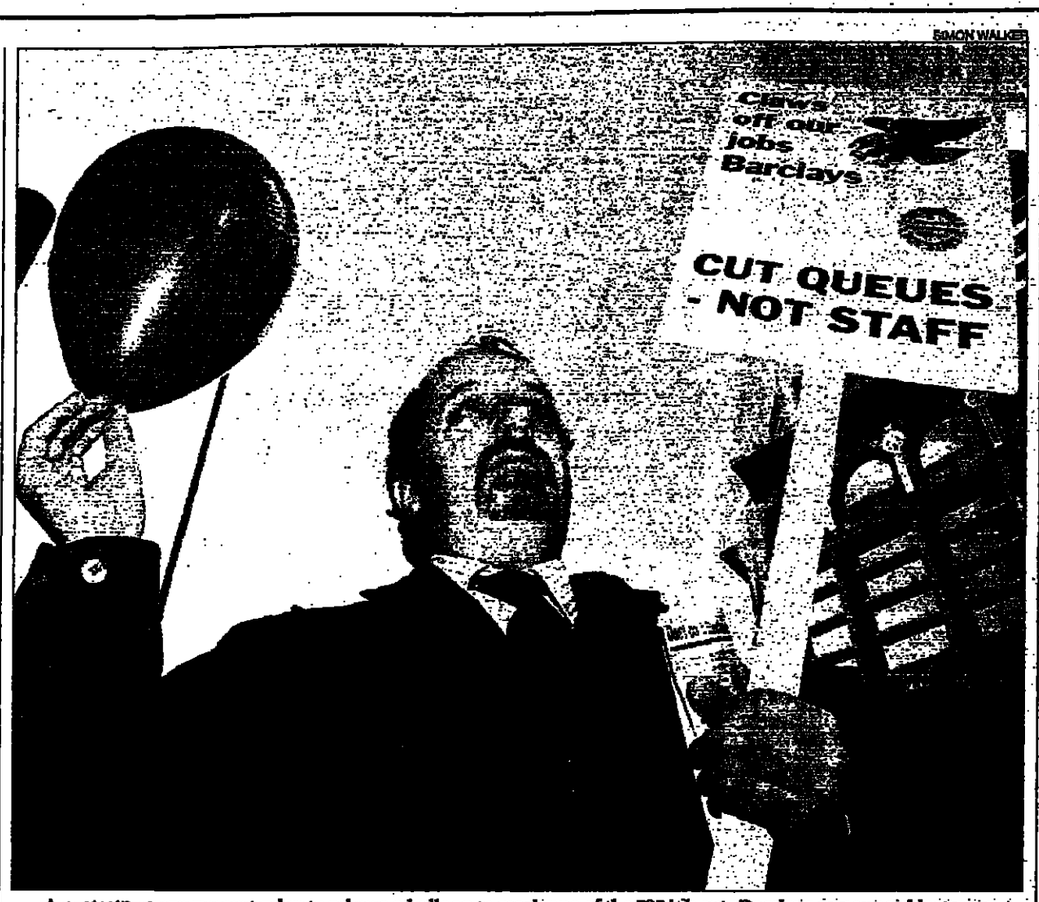
The jobs announcement accompanied a grim trading statement, which disclosed further profit erosion in the first 20 weeks of the current financial year. The company said it had had to cut prices further to maintain competitiveness; the result had been a squeeze on gross margins.

Overall sales rose by 3.1 per cent, but like-for-like sales declined by 1.5 per cent. In the year to September, like-for-like sales rose by 0.5 per cent. The chain has been squeezed between superstores on the one hand and discounters on the other. In November, it shelved plans to expand beyond its heartland in Scotland and northern England.

The company continues to close small, outdated stores and said the cost of this would be "most severely felt in the first half of the current financial year". Mr Dorgan forecasts pre-tax profits of £7 million in the six months to March, compared with £9 million last year.

William Low's share price tumbled 17p to 174p.

Tempus, page 27



A protestor prepares yesterday to release a balloon to mark one of the 505 job cuts Barclays announced last year

Barclays staff protest against redundancies

BY PATRICIA TEHAN, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

THE campaign against compulsory redundancies at Barclays Banks started in earnest yesterday, when staff staged a protest outside the bank's new head offices in Lombard Street in the City.

They later delivered a jumbo postcard to Andrew Buxton, Barclays' chairman, at the bank's temporary base in Royal Mint Court, near the Tower of London.

Last year, Barclays said it planned 505 compulsory redundancies from branches in London and the South East. The redundancies will begin next month. The protestors released 505 balloons as part of their demonstration.

Barclays staff in Paris released 100 balloons over the threat to jobs in France.

The Banking, Insurance and Finance Union (Bifu) fears compulsory job cuts will be extended to other parts of the country after the bank's announcement two weeks ago that it was increasing its target for job cuts.

Barclays had initially planned to cut 15,000 jobs in the five-year period to the end of 1995. However, in 1992, it increased the target to 18,000. That target has now risen to 21,000. Since 1991, Barclays has shed 16,000 jobs, taking staff levels down to 68,500. That leaves 5,000 still to go.

Bifu and the Barclays Group Staff Union are planning to ballot more than 50,000 staff on industrial action next month. A one-day strike is thought likely next month, to coincide with the compulsory redundancies.

Bullough delivers improved result

BY MARTIN FLANAGAN

SHARES in Bullough, the refrigeration to office furniture group, jumped 14p to 186p as the company revealed a better performance by all divisions in the year to October 31.

Pre-tax profits increased to £9.2 million against £5.9 million last time, while earnings per share improved to 3.07p (2.92p). The total dividend is unchanged at 6.05p, courtesy of a 4.30p final.

Bullough made its advance in profits in spite of increased restructuring costs of £4.7 million (£3.3 million).

Refrigeration and store-fitting profits increased from £5.6 million to £5.7 million, while the heating division moved ahead from £3.5 million to £4.1 million.

The electrical and engineering arms also improved their performances, with the former benefiting from increased exports, including a large order for motors for the Chinese coal mining industry.

Meanwhile, office products moved back into the black to the tune of £628,000 after falling £736,000 into the red last time.

Derrick Battle, the chairman of Bullough, said: "With no major restructuring costs and with opportunities for growth in a number of our divisions, I am confident we will show recovery in earnings during 1994."

Net borrowings fell £11.5 million to £3.8 million, reducing the ratio of borrowings to shareholders' funds from 17 per cent to 4.7 per cent.

Fourth BCCI dividend payment in Hong Kong

THE official receiver and liquidator of Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI) in Hong Kong announced a further interim dividend payment to the bank's creditors. Dispatch of cheques will start tomorrow and the process is expected to be completed by February 4. The 6 per cent payment is the fourth dividend to creditors owed more than HK$100,000 (£8,700) each, taking the total payment to such large creditors so far to 64 per cent.

BCCI's Hong Kong subsidiary was closed by the colony's government in July 1991, though it was not directly implicated in the crackdown led by the Bank of England on other BCCI units suspected of fraud and money-laundering. The latest payout will take the subsidiary's total distribution to its creditors to HK$5.2 billion and leaves it with HK$2.7 billion cash in hand.

D Y Davies cuts losses

THE interim dividend has again been passed at D Y Davies, the quoted architect, despite a sharp fall in trading losses. The company said the recovery remained fragile despite cutting interim pre-tax losses to £116,000 (£484,000 loss) in the six months to October 31. Turnover in the period fell from £3.9 million to £2.5 million. Losses were 1.8p a share, (8.3p loss). "There is a return of confidence in the property investment market but this has not transferred to the property development or construction industry," the company said.

Danka profits rise

DANKA Business Systems, the office-equipment supplier, boosted taxable profits by 89 per cent to £8.8 million (£4.7 million) in its third trading quarter to December 31, helped by expansion on both sides of the Atlantic. Quarterly sales rose 73 per cent to £92.5 million, but an increased tax charge meant earnings per share were unchanged at 2.9p. Dan Doyle, chief executive, said Danka had acquired a further group of dealerships in South East England and acquisitions would continue to be important to growth.

Japan approves Zoladex

ZENECA, the pharmaceuticals company demerged from ICI, said Japanese medical authorities had authorised the sale of its Zoladex breast cancer drug. Zoladex, already sold in 36 countries and sold in Japan since 1991 as a prostate cancer treatment, earned £109 million in 1992, it said. Zoladex works against breast cancer by suppressing ovarian function and reducing hormones which stimulate tumour growth, the company said. Zeneca has significant earnings from another breast cancer drug, Nolvadex.

ACT sells Brann

ACT, the computer software group, has sold Brann, its direct marketing services offshoot, to a management buyout team for £8.15 million. Brann was part of BIS Group, which was acquired by ACT last July. The disposal follows the sale of ACT Cablestream to Siemens this month, and ACT directors said it was in line with the strategy of concentrating on financial software products and services. Brann's last published profits were £851,000, in 1992. The sale proceeds will be used for ACT's final deferred payment for BIS.

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THE TIMES
ACCOUNTANTS' EXAM RESULTS

On Saturday February 19th 1994 The Times will publish the Institute of Chartered Accountants' final Professional Examination results.

This will of course be an important day for The Times and readers in the profession.

Firms are now offered the opportunity to place relevant messages such as congratulations to those sponsored, corporate promotion or details of current vacancies.

For information on how to reach the valuable audience reading The Times on this date please call either Karen Jones or James Leary at The Times on 071-481 4481.

ACCOUNTANCY

Cutting the red tape on audits

BY JOHN NEWMAN

The one item that the President of the Board of Trade did not mention on the Deregulation and Contracting Out Bill was the audit requirement for small companies. Since the announcement of its demise in the November Budget, the Department of Trade and Industry has been promising information. This will not be draft legislation, but another consultative document, with consequent uncertainty.

Meanwhile, a considerable proportion of directors controlling the 500,000 companies want to know when they can do away with the audit. They tend to point out that the Government's tax and National Insurance measures take effect almost immediately, but the audit deregulation has, as yet, no time-scale or details.

The obvious open questions about the audit deregulation issues are:

☐ **Timing**: the relaxation will be achieved by a statutory instrument that is likely to be "made" sometime in the summer. This will appoint an accounting reference date for which the measure applies. This would not be earlier than, say, August 30.

☐ **Turnover**: this has been referred to as being decided as for VAT purposes. How companies that are not registered for VAT, for example investment companies or those that have exceptional turnover arising from the sale of a capital asset, are dealt with remains to be decided. It should be noted that for charities the audit exemption figure is set at £100,000 and this figure applies equally to income and expenditure. I would like the DTI to have consistent limits and deal with companies expending large sums of money.

☐ **Subsidiaries and associates**: if the company whose turnover is lower than the limits is a subsidiary of a UK company, should the relaxation apply? Similarly, if the company is controlled by a European or US company or is controlled by a group of companies should the relaxation apply? If the deregulation was worthwhile it might mean the "balkanisation" of activities unless this point is dealt with.

☐ **Compilation report**: for companies with a turnover of less than £350,000 (and over the no-audit limit of £90,000) the audit report is replaced by a compilation report. It is indicated that the report will be certified by an accountant and states that the accounts have been compiled from the company's records and are in accordance with the relevant statutory requirements. One statutory requirement in the Companies Acts for both the profit and loss account and the balance sheet is that they represent a "true and fair view". This would be an audit by another name and no deregulation at all. There has to be statutory limitation of the compilers' liability in this respect.

☐ **Qualified independent accountant**: the person who signs the compilation report has to be, according to the DTI, such a person. Which qualifications will count and how will independence be measured, bearing in mind the differences in codes between the various bodies and lack of statutory definition? Another difficulty concerns regulated auditors; if the report has to be signed by a regulated auditor, then the multitude of accountancy firms which by this measure might escape from audit regulation will not — no loss of regulation for accountants.

☐ **Policing**: laws are useless unless they are capable of being policed and, further, that there is a police force in place. Will there be a specific duty laid on, say, the Registrar of Companies to check the compilation reports and compliance of "no audit" reports and, further, will creditors and others suffering loss be able to be awarded damages against the Registrar for failure to police?

☐ **Accounts format**: there is no indication that the format of the accounts, which will still have to be filed, will in any way be relaxed. Hence even the smallest companies will still have to go through all the rigmarole of reporting the same details as ICI — no deregulation at all.

In conclusion, I must be fair to the President of the Board of Trade and mention the one Companies Act change proposed in the Deregulation Bill; this concerns the procedure for striking off companies that have ceased trading. However, attention should be redirected away from the dead corporations to the living and particularly to look at real measures already announced for deregulation in the audit and accounting area.

The author is chairman of the London Society Practitioner Board and a partner of Chantrey Vellacott



JAMES MORGAN

John Newman, who wants action on audit deregulation

A hangover that may last longer

THIS is the week when Scots, through an uninhibited celebration of Burns Night, skirl their message of cultural independence to the world. The message tends to be a bit blurred at the edges, but it is undeniably a deeply held and immovable chunk of being a Scot. The English celebration of Shakespeare's birthday by the odd merchant banker wearing a rose, seems, well, timid by comparison.

But in a world where business boundaries are no longer based on nationhood, the Scots dimension creates a deep dilemma. The UK accountancy profession is once more in the throes of trying to wrap up a strategy for creating one professional body out of six.

The plan that is likely to be put forward is simple. The three main chartered bodies of England, Scotland and Ireland would be the keystones of one main body with headquarters in London, Edinburgh and Dublin. These would absorb the local members of the remaining three bodies; management accountants, certified accountants and public sector accountants. Everyone would be equal and called chartered accountants. That might seem simple. But even when the working party's final report arrives for consideration by the presidents of the six main bodies in March, it is expected to have at least one, perhaps two, minority dissenting reports attached to it.



ROBERT BRUCE

The whole process was described by one observer as being as complicated as securing six cats in a box. Having got the first three in, you turn round for the other three, gather them up and then discover that the first lot have scrambled out again. An obvious exam question at this point would be: is it worth it? And the answer, on balance, would probably be: no. Even if the first two stages of the process were accepted by all concerned, there is virtually no chance of them accepting the third, the idea that everyone would be described as a chartered accountant. Although the stumbling block in the last attempt at creating a British institute came from the Scots, who voted vehemently against, the real stumbling block this time will be the English membership.

Grassroots members have never shown the slightest inclination to agree with the idea that their qualification is anything but superior to that of other bodies. Even when they were asked to vote on subsuming the public sector body, CIPFA, into their membership, they refused. That was an uncontentious proposition compared with asking them to allow the certified accountants parity of qualification and title.

So if we are talking of politics being the art of the possible, then the current theory is nonsensical. A huge institute would be unfeasible administratively, would, in any case, be vetoed by the English members, and would crucially take the profession's eye off the ball just when irritating people such as some at the DTI are likely to be asking it to focus better on the serious issues.

Shortly, the DTI will be releasing its views on the latest reports from the profession's audit monitoring efforts. These will undoubtedly show things are pretty dire. To some extent, this would be expected. These are early days of audit monitoring. Small firms that are a shambles will be weeded out now, and there will have been an element of targeting those firms. Equally, minor infringements will be lumped in statistically with big misdemeanours. The equivalent of parking on a double yellow line will be counted alongside dangerous driving. The signs are that the DTI, recognising all this, is going to be more concerned with what the accounting bodies are going to do about the standards of auditing than with where they are headquartered. And this is where we come back to the Scots.

To retain their position of proud independence, quality research and training, and long tradition they are going to have to work hard. But they are a small body and though increasingly independent commercially, they already charge their members the highest subscriptions in the UK. The cost of answering critics when the audit monitoring figures come through will be high. Monitoring is already a huge cost that simply did not exist a few years ago. And in Scotland, where the large firms pay their monitoring dues to London, the burden will be proportionately heavy on the small firms. The result will be fewer registered auditors. At the same time, the audit process within the large firms requires fewer and fewer students. The emphasis now is on senior expertise. The old gruntwork that required large numbers of trainees is going.

All this points to a decline in future numbers and an institute torn between small practitioners and large firms. Burns Night may provide the fuel of independence. But the hangover may last longer.

Own goal by the Scots

IN WHAT is seen as a monumental planning disaster, the Scots ICA has organised its 1994 Festival of Accounting to take place on the eve of the Scotland v Ireland rugby international. The problem is that while the festival is in Edinburgh, the match is in Dublin; and traditionally provides an excuse for a three-day festival of golf, rugby and general enjoyment. This year, David Tweedie, chairman of the Accounting Standards Board, had "for strategic reasons", originally accepted an invitation to speak to the Irish technical committee on the eve of the match. Now he finds himself in Edinburgh speaking at the festival. Meanwhile, Allan Denholm, past president, has foregone the pleasures of the festival on the grounds that someone should wave the Saltire in Dublin. But questions are being asked about how Nigel Macdonald, the current president, could have been elected when he neither plays golf nor watches rugby, and plainly prefers a Festival of Accounting to both.

On the ball

A MEMBER of Grant Thornton is out to prove that football is no longer the sole province of men. Kimberley White, marketing manager in the firm's London office overlooking Euston Square, is putting together a football club breakfast seminar on tax and finance. Acceptances include Chelsea, Charlton, Reading, Fulham and Crystal Palace — a response which seems to show that the feminine flair for organisation goes down a treat in the world of football.

Money laundering

THE article on money laundering by Michael Hyland FCCA, which appeared in last week's Accountancy Times, is an edited extract of an article published in the current issue of *Certified Accountant*. Copies of the full article can be obtained from David Robertson on 071-799 9811.

THE Chartered Institute of Management Accountants' membership has topped 2,000 for the first time. The figure of 2,124 makes a 65 per cent growth in members during the past decade and ties in neatly with Cima's 75th anniversary, celebrated this year.

JON ASHWORTH

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253½	130	Aus New Z	253	+½	...	3.6	∞
2806½	2712½	Bankamerica	2962½	-31¼	...	...	...
319	177	Bk of Ireland	308	...	...	4.0	32.7
375	325	Bk Leumi UK	375	...	17.0	5.7	...
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652	362	Barclays	625	-4	...	2.9	...
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569	290	Close Bros	558	...	...	2.5	20.3
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95	45	First Nat Fin	89 †	+2	1.5	2.1	∞
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529	343	Gerrard Nat	511	-1	21.5	5.3	13.6
993	490	HSBC	943	-11	20.0	2.7	22.8
1007	474	HSBC HK	960	-13	20.0	2.6	23.0
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482	207	Ryl Bk Scot	474 †	-1	...	2.9	21.4
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1370	576	Stand Chart	1315	+5	20.5	1.9	...
291	145½	TSB	280	-4	...	3.5	21.7
190	78	Union Disc	178	...	...	...	...
1004	529	Warburg SG	1004	+5	...	2.5	14.7
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459	362	Bulmer (HP)	434 †	...	...	3.0	17.4
193	129	Burtonwd Brw	180 †	-2	4.7	3.3	15.0
181	75	Eldridge P 'A'	165 †	-1	3.5	2.7	∞
70½	50	Fosters Brewing	64	...	...	4.3	∞
465	338	Fullr Sm 'A'	460	-3	7.5	2.0	19.7
506	372	Grand Met	465 †	-4	...	3.5	18.1
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542	388	Guinness	534½	+1½	...	2.9	19.6
80	31	Halkin Hldgs	67	-1	...	...	52.3
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138	105	Heavitree	135	...	3.0	2.8	32.2
433	255	Highland Dist	419	...	...	3.0	20.8
3190	2536	Hoh J	3190	...	42.0	1.7	30.5
323	250	Invrgordn Dist	301	...	...	2.9	17.2
186	118	Macallan-Glen	161	+2	4.3	3.4	30.2
466	365	Marstn Thmpsn 'A'	445	...	...	2.5	21.2
246	164	Mansfield	231	...	...	2.2	16.5
290	231	Mrston Thmp	286	-1	...	2.3	16.5
595	288½	Matthew Clark	585	-5	...	3.9	19.3
300	310	Mrrydwn W	248	...	7.0	3.5	22.2
580	455	Morland	543 †	...	...	2.2	18.7
12	6½	Paramount	10½	...	...	1.8	18.9
231	145	Regent Inns	230	...	...	2.4	23.4
152½	75½	SA Breweries	124½	+6½	...	2.2	20.6
591	393	Scot & New	580	-2	...	3.7	17.8
225	159½	Taunton Cider	188 †	+2	6.2	4.2	14.7
295	213	Vaux Group	293 †	+1	...	4.1	18.9
381	225	Wetherspoon JD	377	-1	...	1.8	29.3
617	435	Whitbread 'A'	603	-1	...	3.7	14.5
613	463	Wolvrhmptn D	548	-3	12.6	2.9	∞
525	475	Young 'A'	525	...	14.7	3.5	21.7

BUILDING, ROADS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
190	73	Abbey	190 †	...	...	1.3	31.2
25½	12	Albrighton	20 †	...	...	0.6	...
179	87	Allen	176	+5	...	3.5	40.3
132½	65	Amec	131	+1	1.0	2.0	24.2
13	4	Anglia Sec	9½	+½	...	...	...
388	192	Ashstead	388	+2	...	1.5	41.0
153	101	Atwoods	148 †	-1	...	4.2	...
363	180	BPB Ind	352	...	...	2.7	42.1
127	57	Baggeridge Brk	122 †	...	...	3.2	36.7
41	18	Bailey (Ben) Con	37	...	0.6	2.0	...
108	71	Barcom	72 †	...	3.0	5.2	∞
57	32½	Bardon	54	-1	2.0	4.6	26.6
278	94	Barratt Devs	270	+7	...	1.9	29.0
268	152½	Bellway	268	...	...	2.8	∞
54	15	Bellwinch	54	...	...	...	...
564	295½	Berkeley Gp	542 †	-3	...	1.4	29.2
151	45	Bett Bros	150	...	...	1.7	19.4
68	36	Blockleys	65	...	1.0	2.0	69.6
391	189	Blue Circle	379	-7	...	3.7	...
355	230	Boot (Henry)	349	...	6.0	2.1	19.5
109	78	Breedon PLC	108	-1	4.6	5.3	26.6
135	82	Br Dredging	135	+1	5.2	4.8	30.0
86	45	Brit Fittings	79	...	...	1.7	28
197½	99	Bryant	184	-3	...	3.3	37.1
146	53	CALA	145	...	...	2.0	...
385	200	CRH	374	+2	...	2.3	20.5
43	18	Cakebread Rby	38	...	...	...	...
41½	21	Costain	39	+½	...	...	...
178	86½	Countryside	173	-1	...	3.0	∞
114	35½	Crest Nicholson	103 †	...	...	1.2	∞
125	27	Cussins	125	...	...	1.0	...
29½	15	Edmond Hldgs	25	-½	0.3	1.5	...
285	178	Epwin	280	...	7.0	3.1	23.7
82	32	Erith	80	+3	0.3	0.5	...
506	252	Eve Group	468	...	...	2.8	17.6
244	97	Freeman Gp	224	-3	5.0	2.8	35.6
50	38	Galliford	48	...	...	2.6	...
87	52	Gibbs & Dandy	87	...	...	2.9	...
1005	695	Gleeson (MJ)	1000	...	...	1.6	17.4
173½	75	Hewden-Stuart	164	+2	...	2.1	35.1
51	28	Heverson	50	...	...	3.2	36.5
430	173	Heywd Wim	422 †	...	13.0	4.0	...
145	37	Higgs & Hill	145	...	2.5	2.2	...
38	26	How Gp	34	+3	...	4.1	...
28	15	Howard Hldgs	26	...	0.5	2.4	...
92	59	Ibstock Johnsen	91	...	1.0	1.4	...
25	12½	Jarvis	20	+½	...	...	7.3
379½	196	Laing (J)	355	-1	9.0	3.2	14.2
146	103	-do- 6.4% Cv Pf	139½	-1	...	5.7	...
145	55	LA Clydeside	140	...	4.8	4.4	∞
23	10	Lovell (YJ)	16	-½	...	...	7.3
405	240	Manders	395	-3	9.3	2.9	24.2
213½	93	Marley	204	+6	4.2	2.6	59.8
143	61	Marshalls	138 †	...	...	3.6	...
250	122	Maunders (J)	250	...	...	2.6	24.1
290	96	McAlpine (A)	284	-3	6.5	2.9	49.2
87½	23	McCarthy & S	80	-2	0.5	0.8	...
563	272	Meyer Int	563 †	+13	...	2.2	56.4
188½	62	Mowlem (J)	175	...	4.0	2.9	...
191	51	NSM	182	-2	...	...	...
53	48	Needler	48	...	...	3.7	22.4
196	106	Newman Tnks	191	...	...	4.4	25.5
381	197	Persimmon	349	-4	8.6	3.1	35.6
26	9	Phoenix Timber	19	...	...	...	...
1781½	1237½	Pochins	1781½	...	29.0	2.0	25.4
196	80	Prowting	188	-2	3.4	2.3	...
1089	555	RMC Gp	1026	-15	...	2.4	38.5
117	75½	Raine Ind	99	...	...	3.8	23.4
36	19	Ransom	29 †	...	...	...	...
640	402	Redland	631	-3	25.0	5.0	36.7
86	64	Rockel	72	...	4.3	7.5	10.6
371	207	Rugby Group	359	-10	6.4	2.4	26.0
68	23	Snrfd-Rvea	59	...	...	0.5	...
175	68	Sharpe & Fisher	175	...	...	2.0	30.4
276	86½	Sheffield Insl	260	...	...	2.6	63.8
268	82	Sheriff Hldgs	260 †	...	...	1.8	24.7
108	66	Shoreco	107	...	5.2	6.1	24.3
245	196	Smart (J)	240	...	...	4.4	18.1
6½	1½	Starmin	3	...	...	...	...
204½	100	Tarmac	198	+3	5.5	3.5	...
234	131	Tay Homes	234	...	...	3.1	28.9
183	63	Taylor Woodrw	173	-2	1.0	0.7	...
738	433	Tilbury Dougls	730	-5	13.0	5.7	23.8
51	19	Torex Hlrsn	49½	-½	0.4	1.0	...
370	168	Travis Perkins	349	-12	8.0	2.9	61.5
29	5½	Trencherwood	25	-½	...	...	...
40	25	Try Group	35	...	1.0	3.6	9.9
28	21	Tudor	21	...	0.2	1.5	...
112	41	Vibroplant	110	-1	2.5	2.8	39.6
66	20	Ward Hldgs	66	...	...	...	...
36	25	Waterhouse	33	...	...	...	...
475	360	Watts Blake	460	...	...	3.3	19.8
32	6½	Wescol	30	-1	...	...	...
225½	90	Westbury	212	...	5.0	2.9	37.1
6	3	Wiggins	5½	...	...	...	...
566	362	Wilson Bowdn	547	-2	...	2.0	38.5
254	147	Wilson (C)	237	-7	3.9	2.1	41.1
234	106	Wimpey G	232	...	...	2.8	...
47	15	YRM	28	...	...	...	...

BUSINESS SERVICES

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
675	463	ADT	654	+4	...	...	...
386	144	Adam & Harvey	363	...	13.0	4.5	6.6
92	56	Air London	69	...	3.5	6.3	12.3
56	37	African Lakes	44	...	2.0	5.7	...
178	93	Asto Sec	134	...	...	5.7	24.0
162	84	BET Ord	153½	-½	...	1.8	6.2
143	41	BNB Res	143	+1	4.9	4.3	...
318	183	BPP	254	+1	8.3	4.1	14.0
178	154	BSM	177	...	...	4.1	15.5
285	195	Barbour Index	219	+1	8.1	4.7	14.7
28	15	Boustead	23	...	0.7	3.8	...
269	184	Brit Data Mgt	193	-4	4.7	3.1	14.1
36	11	Broadcastic	24	...	...	1.3	19.1
73	48	Brooks Service	65	-4	...	1.0	...
109	86	CRT Gp	106	...	...	3.4	19.7
240	139½	Capita Group	212½	-4½	...	1.0	33.2
57	31	Caskel Plc	55½	...	...	2.0	21.3
55	18½	Chiltern Capital	24½	+½	...	...	...
70	26	Christie	66	...	...	...	...
407½	228	Chubb Sec	398½	+3½	...	1.6	34.7
132	90	Comac	120	-1	...	1.6	31.3
44	6½	Corp Services	42	...	...	...	...
91	20	Courts Cnslg	86	...	...	...	...
179	90	Dart	168	-2	3.3	2.5	22.8
274	198	Davis Service	255½	-10½	...	3.9	19.2
124	85	EW Facta	124	...	4.4	4.5	14.2
32	11	Gardiner	29	-1	0.4	1.8	20.1
317	215	Hays	305	-4	...	2.2	26.6
289	174	Hogg Robinsn	288	...	...	2.9	21.0
70	34	Holmes Protecm	37	...	...	...	2.3
359½	127	Hutch Whamp	348½	-3½	...	1.4	28.9
2615½	975	ISS B DKr	2607½	...	...	0.8	18.0
657	475	Inchcape	592	+4	...	3.0	19.3
972	669	Johnson Clean	972	...	25.7	3.3	21.2
12	2½	Lep	7½	...	...	...	...
352	173	Mitie Gp	352	+4	4.0	1.4	27.3
1234½	897½	Manpower	1212½	...	...	...	...
73	40½	Michael Page	73	+½	1.8	3.1	31.0
279	112	Pennas	112	-3	8.0	8.9	4.2
5½	2	Prime People	4½	...	...	...	...
142	57	Proudfoot Alex	83	-2	...	21.6	4.6
425	337	RCO	385	...	15.2	5.1	∞
118	86	REA	109	+1	2.0	2.3	...
125	43	Reed Executive	124	...	...	...	...
156	105	Reliance Sec	122 †	-1	4.5	4.4	27.5
269½	178	Rentokil	253	-2	2.5	1.2	31.6
365	220	Rolfe & Nolan	363	...	...	2.6	24.0
396	319	Salvesen (C)	376 †	-2	...	2.6	24.9
57	26	Scott Pickford	56	...	0.8	1.8	17.8
13	5	Select Appt	13	+1½	...	...	...
1338	605	Serco Gp	1338	...	13.3	1.2	37.0
252	83	Sherwd Cmpt	112	-2	...	7.8	3.3
130	90	Shirchley	107	...	...	3.5	24.5
355	310	Warner Howrd	327	...	6.6	2.5	17.1
45	27	Welpac	32	-3	...	...	...
29½	14	Wills Gp	29	-½	...	1.7	20.3

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
259	210	Allied Colloids	247 †	...	...	2.2	22.8
1046	613	Amersham	1040	-5	...	1.7	29.9
7	1½	Anglo Utd	3½	...	...	...	...
£119½	8325	BASF DM	£111½	+136½	...	5.7	...
373	199	BTP	361 †	-4	...	3.3	29.0
£143½	£101½	Bayer DM50	£139½	+297½	...	3.8	...
178	105	Blagden	161	...	6.5	5.0	17.4
165	93	Brent Chems	124	...	...	7.5	11.3
530	340	Br Bio-Tech	360	...	...	...	...
29	5	Caird Gp	8½	...	...	...	22.9
184	128	Canning (W)	183	...	7.2	5.0	21.0
608	421	Courtaulds	510	-8	...	3.5	12.8
376	228	Croda	363	+1	...	2.7	29.9
149	103	Doeflex	127	+3	4.6	4.5	9.7
271	175	Ellis & Everard	266 †	-2	...	3.4	22.3
42½	15½	Euro Colour	39½	...	0.8	3.1	17.0
351	259	Halstead (J)	344	...	...	2.4	17.0
241	150	Hickson	190	...	...	5.3	17.6
£123½	8850	Hoechst	£117½	-266½	...	3.1	...
229	157	Holliday Chem	187	-1	...	2.5	17.2
805	608	ICI	774	-6	...	4.4	...
827	576	Laporte	820	-1	19.9	3.0	22.6
248	181	Leigh	225 †	-1	...	4.3	18.8
97½	35	MTM	58	...	...	1.3	31.9
2309½	1462½	Norsk Hydro	2219½	+9½	...	3.3	16.0
473	370	Paterson Zoch	473	...	...	3.7	14.5
428	360	-do- 'A'	428	...	...	3.7	20.0
296	193	Plysu	235 †	...	...	...	...
303	173	Forvair	278	...	3.8	1.7	29.7
70	35	Sutcliffe Speak	60	-2	...	...	...
485	412	Wardle Storeys	469	+3	...	4.6	21.7
598	395	Wlstnhlme R	598	...	17.0	3.6	20.5
465	330	Yorks Chem	446	...	...	2.2	21.9
308	233	Yule Catto	308	...	...	2.4	19.2
869	593	Zeneca	801	-5	...	4.3	47.3

DRAPERY, STORES

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
102	53	Alexon	65	+1	...	5.8	...
248	173	Allders	235	-1	...	3.2	17.5
410	257	Argos Plc	369	-7	...	2.4	31.5
25	8	Ashley Group	10½	...	...	2.2	...
118	69	Ashley (Laura)	92	...	0.1	0.1	...
357	278	Asprey	348 †	...	5.2	1.9	22.4
196	94	Austin Reed	196	+2	...	1.6	...
163	125	Beattie (J) 'A'	163	...	...	4.7	16.4
150	94	Bentalls	144	...	1.9	1.6	...
278	125	Betterware	139	-3	...	1.9	16.0
47	22	Blacks Leis	38 †	...	2.2	7.4	...
261	133	Body Shop	250½	-1½	...	0.9	32.3
16½	9	Brown & Jackson	10	...	...	1.0	5.1
461	318	Brown (N)	459	+1	...	2.0	27.0
87½	60½	Burton	67½	-1	...	3.7	...
240	126	Cantors	240	...	...	2.1	33.3
570	295	Church	520	...	12.5	3.0	46.3
183	97	Clinton Cards	165	...	4.3	3.3	19.9
287	212	Coats Viyella	275	-6	...	3.4	38.0
120	78	Colourvision	105	...	5.6	6.8	18.4
181	154	Cry Casuals	169	...	...	3.0	15.7
935	374	Courts Furnish	880	-9	5.6	0.8	11.0
155	115	Crown Eyes	155	...	7.5	6.0	10.6
137	89	Dairy Farm Intl	114½	-½	...	3.2	10.9
109½	51½	Dewhirst (IJ)	108½	-½	0.8	0.9	34.8
293	189	Dixons Grp	221 †	-1	...	3.6	...
21	8	ERA Gp	9	...	...	...	73.9
580	400	Elys (Wimbldn)	580	...	16.0	3.5	19.9
264	71	Essex Furn	263	-1	...	1.7	42.1
273	203	Etam	262½	...	7.0	3.3	24.1
608	499	Fine Art Dev	551 †	-6	13.0	3.0	17.9
70	26	Fired Earth Tiles	48	...	...	...	...
710	498	Forminster	708 †	...	14.5	2.6	13.9
180	24	French Conn	152	...	...	...	...
74	43	Gent SR	68	...	...	3.9	21.1
100	23	Goldsmiths Gp	93	...	0.3	0.4	...
659	334	GUS	615	-6	...	2.4	18.9
40	21	Hampden Grp	25	...	...	5.0	12.4
277	30	Hartstone	69	...	...	...	...
33½	20	Helene Plc	31	...	2.0	8.1	14.6
109	56	Heritage	100	+1	...	...	...
86	35	Honeysuckle	75	...	...	3.8	11.0
211	63	Jacques Vert	202	...	...	2.2	15.4
783	496	Kingfisher	653	-10	...	2.7	22.5
76	62½	Leslie Wise Gp	76	...	4.0	6.6	15.7
685	495	Liberty	545	...	7.2	1.7	64.2
380	241	Lloyds Chem	360	-2	...	2.5	12.7
177	120	MFI	174	+1½	...	2.7	36.6
461½	311	Marks Spencer	442	-7	...	2.4	22.6
680	445	Menzies (John)	668	+1	...	2.1	18.8
274	135	Moss Bros	271	...	5.5	2.5	31.8
251	139½	Next	241	-2	3.5	1.8	28.8
42	15	Oliver (G)	42	...	...	...	...
325	197	Oriflame Intl	310 †	...	...	4.0	15.2
63	24	Pentos	40	+2	0.8	2.5	8.3
313	185	QS Hldgs	259	+1	5.1	2.5	18.4
69½	20½	Rhino Grp	41	+2	...	...	...
201	120	Rosebys	200	...	...	3.0	24.0
181	135	Sherwood Gp	179	...	...	1.8	16.1
131½	95	Sears	130½	+1	...	3.4	...
41½	11	Signet Group	35½	...	...	...	...
545	400	Smith WH 'A'	530½	-6½	...	3.5	16.9
127	83	-do- B	124	-2	...	3.0	19.8
21	4½	Specialeyes	13	-1	...	...	...
252	176	Storehouse	239 †	-10	...	2.6	23.6
191	146	T & S Stores	167	...	6.0	4.5	12.4
173	71	Tie Rack	170	-2	1.0	0.7	27.8
263	180	Time Products	263	...	7.7	3.7	22.7
131	63	Usher (Frank)	124	-3	6.0	6.0	10.7
465	302	Vendome	453	-8	...	1.7	21.1
45	27	Vivat	36	...	1.0	3.5	11.1
87	42	WEW Group	62	-1	...	2.7	45.7
49	34	Wensum	48	...	1.8	4.9	...
125	76	Wickes	125	+1	...	0.2	56.8
84	45	Wnd of Leather	82	...	...	...	...
195	142	Wyevale	194	...	...	2.8	25.7
4	2½	Xtra-vision	2½	...	...	...	...

ELECTRICALS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
187	134	ACT Group	179	+3	...	3.5	18.0
275	223	Acal	263 †	...	...	3.1	18.9
490	385	Admiral	488	...	5.7	1.5	20.6
175	104	Alba	175	...	...	3.5	19.8
50	19½	Alphameric	40½	...	...	...	...
55	22	Amstrad	40½	-1	...	1.3	...
128	61	App Holo	93	...	...	...	...
43	9½	Arlen	36	-2	...	...	...
88	35½	Astec	83½	-1	...	0.4	...
266	230	Azlan	266	+1	...	1.4	31.7
293	224	Beales Hunter	278	...	...	4.3	17.0
9	2	Bennett & Fount	4	...	...	...	...
478	319	BICC	464	-2	19.2	5.2	...
558	408	Bisk	525	-5	...	2.5	19.1
1700	925	Borland	1050	...	...	...	...
384	270	Bowthorpe	365 †	+1	...	2.4	24.2
489½	376	BT	457½	+½	...	4.4	17.7
232½	150	BT P/P	200 †	+2	...	4.4	21.7
7	5½	Bulgin (AF) 'A'	20	...	0.1	0.6	...
160	48	Burnfield	72	...	5.7	10.0	11.4
545	334½	Cable Wireless	524 †	-6	...	1.8	27.4
29½	11½	Chloride	28½	...	...	...	...
276	229	CML Micro	273	...	4.7	2.2	19.8
137	74	Compt People	136	...	...	...	...
192½	108½	Cray Elect	192 †	+6	...	1.1	18.7
441	243	Critchley	440 †	...	...	1.4	25.3
554	414	Delta	542	-1	...	3.2	22.6
543	205	Densitron Ele	543	...	...	1.5	17.3
620	395	Domino	520	+32	7.9	1.9	∞
77	48	Dowding Mills	75	...	...	4.7	32.1
1480	865	Dracka	1478 †	+3	10.3	0.9	31.5
589	358	Electrocompnts	565	...	...	1.9	23.0
710	470	El Data Prc	580	...	5.5	1.2	∞
175	43	Electron House	167	...	...	2.1	33.8
30	10½	Emess	29½	...	0.1	0.4	...
774	442	Eurotherm	770 †	-2	...	1.5	26.2
211	108	FKI	204	-½	...	2.0	29.9
686	340	Farnell Elect	638	-1	...	1.3	33.8
91	33	Feedback	74 †	...	...	3.4	10.0
330	101	Frst Tech	329	...	...	0.8	22.3
270	81	Forward Gp	237	-3	4.0	2.1	16.7
22½	13½	Forward Tech	19	...	...	...	...
367½	264	GEC	340 †	+3½	10.4	3.8	18.9
199	132	Graseby	189	+2	...	7.2	39.8
14	7½	Graystone	13	...	...	...	...
52	35	Hilclare	48	...	0.5	1.3	...
169	83	INSTEM	135	...	3.1	2.9	9.7
193	118	Ind Control	182	+7	...	3.0	18.3
388	320	Joner Stroud	378	...	...	3.0	15.1
121	26	Kalamazoo	119 †	-1	2.7	2.8	27.6
19	8	Kembrey	12½	...	0.1	1.6	...
395	280	Kenwood App	394 †	+1	...	2.5	22.1
266	47	Kewill Sys	254	-1	...	...	...
209	100	Kode	143	...	6.0	5.2	17.0
60	16	Laser-Scan	33	...	...	...	...
365	122	LBMS	144	...	0.7	0.7	20.3
300	205	Lec Refrig	278	+8	9.0	4.0	...
179	129	Life Sciences	158	-1	3.7	3.0	17.1
310	164	Logica	302	-2	...	1.7	34.8
53	44	LPA Inds	49	...	2.4	6.4	∞
229	162	MR Data Mngmt	203	...	...	3.2	19.1
718	523	Macro 4	718	...	...	3.1	21.8
281	175½	Manwics-Sw	248	-2	...	2.0	21.9
3013	903	Micro Focus	1065	-20	...	...	9.8
227	144	Microgen	173 †	...	7.2	5.2	∞
37	23½	Microvitec	37	...	...	...	...
548	357	Misys	548	+7	...	1.6	20.0
584	96	Mitel	476	...	...	...	...
171	108	MMT Comp	171	...	...	2.9	23.3
272	202	MTL Inst	265	...	3.7	1.7	20.0
165	103	Multitone Elect	141 †	...	3.5	3.1	25.6
139	58	Murray Enter	132	-3	...	1.9	∞
3206½	2612½	NYNEX	2619½	+3½	...	...	...
138	123	Neotronics	125	...	2.6	3.6	∞
64	42	Newmark (L)	53	...	...	...	...
295	50	Northaine	294	...	...	0.6	22.6
75	20	Northamber	58	...	0.6	1.3	...
9	5	Oceonics	7½	...	...	...	...
338	195	Oxford Inst	338	...	4.6	1.7	23.2
81½	29	P & P	75	...	1.5	2.5	39.8
98	55	Peek	95	+½	3.4	4.5	24.8
227	115	Pegasus	226	+5	...	3.5	58.0
£102½	9000	Philips Fn 4%	£102½	...	...	5.6	...
1625	725	-do- Lmp nv	1612½	...	...	...	...
405	211	Phonelink	405	...	...	...	...
327	171½	Plfco	327	...	...	1.6	27.4
317	151½	-do- 'A' Voting	317	...	...	1.6	28.6
96	63	Plasmec	70	...	3.0	5.4	5.9
120	76	Pressac	110	+1	...	2.9	23.3
241	81	Psion	241	+5	2.5	1.3	64.0
261	147	Racal Elect	217 †	+1	4.2	2.4	12.9
70	33	Radamec	50	...	...	3.8	10.7
70	24	Radius	38	...	2.2	7.4	13.1
95	61	Real Time	92	-1	...	4.1	18.9
35	15	Riva	19	...	...	...	24.1
623	367	Sage Gp	518 †	...	...	2.4	15.9
390	222	Sanderson Elec	348 †	...	9.9	3.6	14.8
89	49	Scantronic	83	-1	3.1	4.8	22.7
205	117	Scholes Grp	200	...	...	3.1	25.9
375	270	Sema Gp	326	...	2.9	1.1	26.4
49	26	Silvermines	44	...	...	2.8	...
81	37	Soundtracks	77	...	2.4	4.0	∞
2673	1737½	TDK	2412½	-34½	...	1.3	27.5
27	4½	TDS Circuits	15	...	...	...	...
198	80	Telemetrix	155	-3	0.8	0.6	25.5
1107	809	THORN EMI	1102 †	-3	...	3.6	25.5
152	96	Thorpe FW	143	...	...	2.3	16.7
103	23	Total Systems	43	+1	1.5	4.4	7.6
575	372	Tunstall	573 †	...	7.0	1.5	∞
295	164	Unitech	294	-1	...	2.6	69.7
15	6	Verity	12	...	...	...	...
35	22	Vistec	27	...	0.3	1.7	15.9
624½	367	Vodafone	584 †	-10	...	1.6	25.4
473	368	Volex	466 †	+4	18.1	4.9	19.1
26	11	Western Selecn	25 †	+5	0.2	1.2	...
310	223	Wholesale Ftgs	310	...	11.7	4.7	32.9

ELECTRICITY

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
687	389	East Midlands	682 †	+3	...	3.8	12.1
704	390	Eastern Elect	685 †	-2	...	3.7	13.1
480½	304	Hydro-Elect	443	-7	...	3.3	15.4
687	404	London Elect	684 †	+5	...	3.9	12.9
797	458	Manweb	794 †	+4	...	3.4	9.9
751	424½	Midlands Elec	725	+7	...	3.7	11.3
510	273	National Powr	479	-10	...	2.9	11.9
750	440	Northern Elec	746 †	-12	...	3.8	9.7
283	180	Nthn Ireland	275	+1	...	3.2	13.1
768	439	Norweb	759 †	-2	20.8	3.4	10.9
577	273	PowerGen	556	-9	...	2.5	14.6
487	285	Scottish Power	451	-7	...	3.2	16.6
402	218	Seeboard	397 †	-2	...	3.2	12.4
780	460	Sth Wales	777 †	+8	...	3.7	11.9
711	426	Sth Western	708 †	+6	...	3.7	10.4
724	406	Southern Elec	703 †	-3	...	3.7	9.3
692	455	Yorkshire Elec	688 †	-2	...	3.9	13.0

FINANCE, LAND

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
60½	50	Aitken Hume	53	...	1.0	2.4	11.2
151	47	BWD	150	...	3.4	2.8	23.4
119	26	Baltic Plc	112	...	...	1.1	...
757	413	Caledonia	720	...	...	2.7	26.8
2000	1075	Cunnelly	1900	...	...	2.0	7.2
363	243	Candover	358	...	10.4	3.6	...
385	71	Flextech	379 #	...	0.5	0.2	...
424	155	Govett	424	-15	...	3.9	12.4
234	125	Ivory Sime	232 †	...	...	3.8	20.0
425	150	Johnson Fry	390	+7	...	...	...
241	154	Lon Forfaiting	241	...	8.7	4.5	17.5
84	47	Manakin	84	...	...	...	...
16½	7½	Nat Home Loan	15½	+½	...	...	0.3
53	40	Newmarket	53	...	...	...	...
350	246	Rathbone Bros	348	...	6.5	2.3	21.1
26	17	Rutland Tst	24½	...	...	4.1	14.5
397	253	S & U	384	-13	10.2	3.3	14.3
103	48	Singer & Fried	97	-2	...	3.9	...
1138	713	Sotheby's	1105	...	...	1.5	...
166	113	SIP Capital	164	...	3.0	2.3	67.6
206	183	Towry Law	205	...	...	2.9	20.1

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
2856½	1487½	Amer Express	2187½	+137½	...	...	...
1134	835	Henderson Ad	1113	-10	...	4.7	25.7
232	92	Invesco	225	+11	...	1.6	...
317	164	Jardine Strat	290½	+2½	...	2.7	12.4
323	154	MAI	299	-2	...	2.9	18.0
758	389	MAM	753	...	16.0	2.7	18.8
1183	633	M & G	1180 †	...	...	2.6	24.7
470	109	Smith New Crt	470 †	+6	...	1.9	4.6
81	45	Trio Hldgs	59	-1	2.5	5.4	∞

FOODS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
594	456	AB Food	584 †	+7	...	3.2	12.1
77½	48½	ASDA Group	62½	+½	1.6	3.3	...
368	170	Acatos & Hutch	363	...	...	2.8	13.2
80	35	Albert Fisher	72	+2	...	6.5	16.0
407	246	Argyll	274 †	-7	...	5.1	9.9
262	180	Banks (S C)	261	...	9.0	4.3	11.6
402	305	Barr (AG)	331 †	+1	6.5	2.5	∞
85	56	Bensons Crsps	67	...	...	5.3	15.1
141	100	Berisford Intl	128 #	...	...	...	...
481	357	Booker	454	-1	...	6.0	39.4
52	35	Borthwick	50½	...	...	3.0	62.7
505	430	Brake Bros	494	-1	6.3	1.6	20.6
51	37	Budgen	40	-1	...	4.1	12.1
545	407	Cadbury-Schw	526	-5	...	3.2	18.6
222	78	Carrs Milling	194 †	...	...	2.8	14.1
196	133	Cranswick	165 †	...	...	6.1	15.6
22	8	Cullens	16½	...	0.5	3.8	47.4
384	119	Dalepak	130	...	...	4.8	37.7
543	424	Dalgety	525	-3	...	4.9	15.0
54	27	Daniels S	54	...	...	0.6	...
294	191	Devro	287	-4	...	2.4	27.3
134	99	Everest	101	...	...	4.6	18.3
390	269	Farepak	390	...	5.7	1.8	24.0
10	3	Farringford	7½	...	...	...	...
94	64	Finlay (James)	78	+1	...	6.7	25.9
125	78	Fyffes	100	...	...	1.6	18.0
483	356	Geest	302	+6	8.1	3.4	13.6
18	7	Global	17	+1	0.5	3.7	26.5
68	43	Grand Central	59	-1	0.8	1.7	...
203	139	Hazlewood Fds	166	-1½	...	4.9	9.4
198½	131	Hillsdown	183	...	8.8	6.0	14.4
250	146	Iceland Group	179	-5	...	2.4	11.3
131	92	JLI Group	109 †	...	...	5.4	12.1
853	542	Kwik Save	621	-8	...	3.7	11.2
262	144	Low (Wm)	174	-17	...	6.0	6.1
91	41	Matthews (B)	90	...	2.3	3.3	58.9
19½	11	Merchant Retail	17 †	...	0.9	7.0	34.8
174	84	Morrison (W)	115	-2	...	0.9	15.0
243	177	Nichols (JN)	243	...	5.5	2.9	17.6
291	207½	Nthn Foods	257 †	-4	...	4.1	12.6
20½	8	Nrthmbn Fa	11	...	...	...	...
229	172	Nurdin Peack	203	...	...	3.8	11.2
306	205	Park Foods	287	-14	...	2.9	21.9
115	58	Perkins Food	76	...	...	7.3	8.7
123	47	PizzaExpress	123	+3	...	0.5	26.0
9	1½	Regina Hlth	4½	...	...	...	...
584	360	Sainsbury J	447	+4	...	2.9	15.7
86	33	Sentry Farm	75	...	1.5	2.5	13.5
225	90	Sims Food	119	...	...	6.8	22.9
467½	355½	Tate & Lyle	453 †	-2	...	3.6	12.1
273	176	Tesco	230	-2	...	4.0	10.4
211	123	Thorntons	194	-1	...	2.4	...
229	101	Treats	225	+1	3.7	2.3	∞
434½	300	Unigate	416	-12	...	4.9	13.6
437	326	Utd Biscuits	378	-2	...	5.1	23.4
34½	18½	Usborne	20½	...	...	3.3	15.1
374	248	Watson & Phil	374 †	...	...	4.8	15.6
59	30½	West Trust	44 †	...	...	7.7	...

HOTELS, CATERERS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
26	12	Abrdn Stk H	26	...	...	...	...
94	77	Cty Centre Rest	94	...	1.5	2.1	22.7
285	170	Forte	265	...	...	3.5	20.8
215	148	Friendly Hotels	198	+2	...	3.6	38.6
11½	5	Harmony Props	11½	...	...	...	...
168½	83	Jurys Hotel	153½	+½	...	4.2	12.4
222½	142	Ladbroke	202½	+1½	11.1	6.9	17.3
100½	59	Mandarin Orntl	98½	+½	...	3.4	24.4
2½	½	Regal Hotels	1½	...	...	...	...
55	28	Resort Hotels	45 #	...	3.4	9.6	8.8
29½	11½	Ryan Hotels (I)	29½	+½	...	4.2	...
1025	730	Savoy Hotel 'A'	990	...	7.0	0.9	...
84	34½	Stakis	84	+1	1.0	1.5	∞

INDUSTRIALS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
218	19	AAF Inds	41	...	...	26.8	2.5
616	455	AAH	542 †	+5	...	4.0	18.1
185	123	AIM	150	...	7.5	6.3	9.0
137	68	APV	137	...	...	5.0	...
238	81	ASW	175	+2	...	4.3	...
201	118	Adwest	195	-1½	...	4.6	18.8
29	10	Aerospace Eng	19	...	...	5.0	34.7
309	240	Amstrung	308 †	...	...	1.9	19.7
289	113	Alenda W	206	+1	4.1	2.5	32.0
13½	6½	Allied Radio	10½	+½	...	...	...
302	207½	Alumasc	300	...	...	2.4	17.7
48	17	Alvis	47 †	+1	1.0	2.7	∞
745	345	Amber Ind	745	...	...	3.2	17.1
59	45	Amberley Gp	58	...	1.0	2.2	...
107	75	Anagen	80	...	...	...	...
93	65	Andrews Syker	85	...	...	4.4	...
1365	703	Anglogasa	1365	+7	...	1.5	23.2
59½	37	Armour	59½	+2½	...	3.4	14.1
173	143	Ash & Lacy	173	...	6.4	4.6	17.7
4	2½	Ash Br Eng	3½	...	...	1.9	42.5
565	434	Avon Rubber	565 †	+16	...	3.7	∞
275	168	Assoc Nursg	275 †	...	...	0.5	16.9
687½	493	Atlas Equip	508	...	...	5.4	12.8
81	35	Ayrshire Metal	68	...	...	...	...
220½	147	BBA	207	-9	...	4.5	17.6
115	28	BLP Group	115	...	...	...	...
77	13	BM Gp	36½	+½	...	2.2	...
770	590	BOC	691 †	-5	...	4.2	16.5
79½	50	BSG	75	+1	...	5.3	26.1
578	353	BSS Group	570	+5	...	3.8	31.8
409½	318	BTR	396	+1	...	3.9	19.9
221	147	BWI	166	...	...	5.0	15.4
50	25½	Babcock	41½	+1	...	3.3	24.8
11	4	Bailey (CH)	10	...	...	...	...
289	128	Baird (Wm)	251	-1	8.9	4.4	17.4
1062½	400	Barlow Rand	412½	-6½	...	7.0	7.5
73	48	Baynes (Charles)	72	...	...	2.6	29.5
28½	14	Beatrng Power	27½	...	0.7	4.0	∞
15	2½	Beaufort	2½	-1½	...	...	...
10	2	Beckenham	3	...	...	...	...
34	15	Bedford (W)	32	...	...	...	...
27½	15	Benson Group	18	...	...	2.1	13.6
709	285	Bespak	370 †	+15	10.2	3.4	11.6
139	55	Bibby (J)	68	...	2.0	3.7	∞
312	129	Billam (J)	203	...	5.3	3.3	10.2
41	21½	Bilston Batten	30	...	...	...	...
11½	2	Blaxec Ind	6½	...	...	...	...
261	118½	Birkby	260	...	3.7	1.8	13.5
45	29	Black Arrow	40	-1	2.1	6.6	12.6
1½	½	Black & Edgn	1½	...	...	...	...
270	136	Black (Peter)	220	...	3.7	1.7	23.7
590	129	Bluebird Toys	590	+5	4.5	1.0	18.0
322	230	Bodycote	313	+2	...	2.0	20.0
40	23	Bogod 'A'	35 †	...	0.7	2.5	13.0
609	416	Boots	582 †	-1	...	3.0	22.2
61	39	Booth Inds	54	...	...	...	...
524	402	Bowater	503	-5	...	3.0	21.0
1681½	1187½	Bowater Inc	1521½	-31½	...	...	...
279	199	Boxmore Intl	274	+5	3.7	1.7	20.5
19	12½	Braswy	17½	+½	...	3.0	...
321	204	Brammer	318	...	13.0	5.1	23.7
29	12	Bridgend Gp	27	...	0.4	...	...
140	64	Bridon	140	+3	...	3.6	...
88	53	Bridport-Gndry	75 †	...	...	4.2	...
55	31	Brierley Inv	57½	+½	...	6.3	13.2
308	190	Br Bldg & Eng	235	...	8.0	4.5	∞
124	42	Br Bloodstock	109	...	...	...	...
538	415	Br Polythene	470	+6	...	2.7	16.8
137½	54	Br Steel	132½	+1	...	1.4	...
195	115	Br Thornton	154 †	...	...	4.1	16.0
298	215	Br Vita	282	-4	7.3	3.2	17.4
15½	5½	Britton Grp	14½	...	...	1.5	...
993	555	Broken Hill	865½	...	...	2.1	39.2
112	78	Bromsgrve Ind	101 †	...	...	5.4	13.2
11½	6½	Brooke Tool	10½	...	...	...	...
73	35	Brown & Tawse	67	...	...	...	...
186	91	Bullough	196	+14	6.0	4.2	∞
24	11½	Business Tech	15	...	...	...	...
28	12	CI Group	16	...	0.5	4.5	15.4
42	11	Campbell & Arm	42	+½	...	...	...
39	6½	Campion St	...	+½	...	...	...
263	205	Cape	262	-1	...	5.0	17.7
455	254	Caradon	429	-1	...	3.5	34.7
215½	128	-do- pf	207½	-1½	7.2	4.4	...
293	178	Carclo Eng	293	...	8.7	3.9	20.0
2987½	2025	Carnaud Mtl	2337½	+6½	...	2.6	∞
104	68	Carady Bros	100 †	...	...	3.0	16.4
241	158	Castings	241	+3	4.6	2.4	17.0
71	53	Cathay Intl	63	-1	...	...	...
250	217	Celltech	219	...	...	...	...
195	113	Chamberlin Hill	180	...	6.5	4.5	11.2
797	605	Charter	795	...	...	3.5	12.7
345	220	Chemring	330 †	...	...	3.4	17.1
92	45	Chieftain Gp	46	...	4.5	12.2	9.9
49½	15½	Chillington	41	-1	1.0	3.1	...
235	144	Christies Int	234	-1	...	0.8	58.1
80	34	Claybithe	76	...	...	4.2	...
150	35	Clayton Son	115	-10	...	...	...
455	295	Cohen (A)	425	...	3.4	1.0	...
266	179	Community H	266	...	...	3.2	18.1
256	186½	Concentric	249	...	5.8	2.9	∞
292	120	Cook (Wm)	278	-1	6.0	2.7	16.8
273	182	Cookson	283	-2	...	3.0	33.5
95	38	Copyrnore	95	...	...	1.3	29.0
236	130	Crowd Pkr 'A'	152	+2	...	4.7	20.6
178	92	Cosalt	138 †	...	...	4.9	...
265	150	Creighton Nts	265 †	...	7.4	3.5	19.0
45	27	CrestaCare	40	...	0.6	2.0	34.6
4006½	2993½	Daen	3850	-31½	...	...	...
348	79½	Danka Bs Sys	340 †	-2	...	0.6	32.3
280	195	David Brown	280	+5	...	2.5	19.9
32	5	Davies (D)	18	...	...	...	...
964	632	De La Rue	947 †	-1	...	2.5	22.8
38	16	Dinkie Heel	37	...	1.1	3.7	28.5
622	391	Diploma	595	-1	...	2.5	23.8
97	50	Dobson Park	97 †	...	...	4.8	22.0
119	92	Dyson (J&J)	115	...	5.0	5.4	21.2
83	57	-do- 'A'	81	...	5.0	7.7	14.9
16½	8	EFG	16	...	...	...	...
440	358	EIS	433	...	...	3.5	17.1
24	19	Elbief	24	...	...	...	...
53	19	Eleco	53	...	...	...	...
2921½	1790	Electrolux 'B'	2728½	+59½	...	1.9	...
81	43	Elliott (B)	81	+4	...	...	...
548	394	Eng China Cl	518	+5	...	4.8	30.1
144	111	Environmed	140	-3	...	...	...
3962½	1580	Ericsson 'B'	2803½	-25	...	1.0	...
86	32	Eurocopy	83	...	1.7	2.6	∞
87	47	Expamet	71	...	...	4.2	1.7
765	499	Fairey Group	763	...	10.7	1.8	23.5
136	47	Fenner	136	...	...	...	...
90	32	Ferraris Group	90	+1	...	2.3	13.3
29	11	Ferrum	11	...	1.4	13.9	7.7
66	28	Fife Indmar	63	...	...	5.5	...
251	102	Fisons	140	...	...	7.8	13.0
60	29	Fitzwilton	60 †	...	...	7.3	...
286	215	Flogas	273	...	...	5.6	12.5
51	33	Folkes Group nv	48	...	1.9	3.9	27.2
126	56	French (Thomas)	126	...	3.0	3.7	∞
263	162	Frost Group	263	...	...	2.1	34.1
88	70	GEI Int	80	...	...	3.9	...
607	434	GKN	580	-7	...	4.4	39.5
59	42	GR Hldgs	59	+5	...	3.8	...
134	79	Garton Eng	134	...	4.1	3.8	...
175	103	Gestetner	170	-3	3.0	2.2	∞
68	23	Glevez	63	...	...	...	45.6
801	509	Glaxo	668	-13½	...	4.1	17.5
38½	16	Glenchewton	38	...	...	...	...
389	245	Glynwed	385	-1	11.6	3.8	34.3
170	69	Goode Durrant	170 †	...	...	4.0	...
185	102	Grampian Hld	179	...	5.5	3.8	31.1
592	341	Granada	569 †	-9	...	1.9	22.5
465	301	Gnm Sttrns	464	...	11.4	3.1	19.1
117	73	Green (Ernst)	83	...	...	10.5	12.6
15½	8½	Greenacre	14½	...	...	2.6	14.3
17	5	Guardian Grp	6 #	...	...	...	...
51	30½	Haden MacLn	70½	...	...	3.5	25.4
102	44	Hadleigh Inds	91	...	1.0	1.4	...
304	115	Hall Eng	303	...	8.6	3.6	23.3
235	161	Halma	226 †	+1	...	1.2	28.3
70	30	Hampson Ind	70	...	1.7	3.1	23.0
286½	222	Hanson	239	-½	...	5.1	20.7
221	146	Harris (Philip)	156	-1	...	5.5	9.5
220	147	Harrisn Cosfld	217	+2	9.0	5.2	31.3
171	38	Havelock Euro	168	-2	...	...	...
51	20	Hay (Norman)	36	...	...	...	...
40	17	Headway	40	+2	...	2.2	...
13½	1½	Healthcare	1½	...	...	...	0.5
511	301	Hepworth	499	-1	14.8	3.7	21.5
228	154	Hewitt (J)	185	...	3.2	2.2	14.5
57½	15	High-Point	53	...	0.5	1.2	...
203	112½	Hill & Smith	189	-5	6.2	4.2	∞
23½	6½	Hobson	20½	-½	...	...	...
176	87	Holders Tech	174	...	6.0	4.3	22.7
63	30	Hopkinsons	60	...	0.9	1.9	45.4
198	133	Hornby	198	+3	9.0	5.7	18.7
98	54½	Howden	98	...	...	2.9	15.5
260	173	Hunting	254	-1	...	4.9	21.4
513	289½	Huntleigh Tech	498	...	...	1.0	33.0
379	247	IMI	357	...	...	3.5	31.7
131	90	ISA Intl	131	...	1.5	1.5	20.4
205	131	Intercare Gp	160 †	-4	3.5	2.7	∞
295	235	Isotron	295	...	4.3	1.8	17.1
707	360	Jardine Math	660	-2½	...	1.9	23.9
606	425	Johnson Math	575 †	-3	...	2.3	22.4
64	39½	Johnson & FB	62½	...	...	4.0	40.5
177	104	Johnston	168	+1	3.2	...	...
32	19	Jones Shipman	30	...	...	...	...
36	18	Jourdan (T)	35	...	0.7	2.3	...
178	73	Kalon	168½	-½	...	2.6	23.4
297	195	Kelsey Ind	233 †	...	8.0	4.3	∞
805	465	Kershaw (A)	765	...	27.0	4.5	∞
276	75	Kleeneze	270 †	-4	1.0	0.5	∞
164	61	LOWA	159	...	3.4	2.7	13.2
415	266	Laird	415	...	...	3.2	20.4
157½	103	Lilleshall	155	...	...	3.5	20.4
223	97	Lincat	212	...	...	3.5	14.9
51	4½	Lincoln Hse	50	+3	...	...	41.2
128	76	Linread	114	...	3.8	4.2	17.6
365	170	Linton Park	353	...	...	5.0	12.7
15½	9½	Lionheart	13½	...	0.2	1.9	...
22½	15	Locker (T) A	20	...	0.8	5.3	29.1
274	92	Lon Intl	164	...	6.2	4.8	...
159½	130	Lonrho	157	+4	...	3.2	42.6
408	269	Low & Bonar	407	+5	...	2.9	57.0
49	14½	ML Hldgs	49	...	...	...	...
67	27	MS Intl	63 †	...	...	5.0	38.6
59	38	MY Holdings	51 †	...	...	3.1	13.5
265	168	Macfarlane	265	...	...	1.6	30.0
497½	379	McKechnie	490	+5	...	3.8	23.6
127	85	McLeod Russel	120	-1	...	6.4	17.7
105	63	Magnolia	101	...	0.1	0.1	16.2
132	71	Mang Bronze	132	...	2.5	2.4	∞
28½	19½	Marling	25 †	-½	...	4.2	...
231	124	Mayborn	228	...	5.2	2.9	17.5
62	29	Mayflower	59	-1	...	1.0	49.3
236	85	Medeva	167	-1	...	1.8	13.6
118	88	Meggitt	114	...	...	4.2	19.4
125	98	Metalrax	120	...	...	3.9	19.6
154	112	Metrotect	127 †	...	...	3.2	17.6
104	70	Metsec	104	+1	...	...	...
114	29	Midstates	108	...	...	0.9	15.0
5½	½	Middlesex	5	...	...	...	...
575	368	Molins	554	+1	...	3.2	13.3
408	262	Morgan Crble	393	-1	...	4.0	20.6
192	134	Morris Ashby	192	...	5.7	3.8	14.4
45	18	Neepsend	43½	...	1.0	2.9	58.4
80	34	Nestor-BNA	77½	...	3.1	5.1	18.5
249	122	Nobo Gp	237 †	...	5.3	2.8	23.4
212½	122½	Norcros	200 †	-3	...	4.4	29.2
51	33	Novo Group	34 †	...	...	4.0	10.9
413	310	Nu-Swift	398	...	...	...	∞
81	36	Office Elec Mac	50	...	...	...	...
64	21	OMI Intl	63 †	...	...	...	...
165	123	PCT	165	...	7.2	5.5	18.7
91	36	Pacer Systems	73	-4	...	5.9	...
43	31	Pascoe's	33	...	...	...	...
138	87½	Pentland	119	...	...	2.8	16.2
395	283	Photo-Me	300	-10	4.7	2.0	19.3
204	97½	Pilkington	192 †	-4	...	1.7	...
104	68	Plantsbrook	104	...	3.1	3.7	16.4
185	125	Polypipe	173	-3	2.1	1.5	23.4
42	15	Porter Chadbrn	23	...	...	2.2	10.5
14½	9½	Porth Gp	12	...	...	...	...
376	272	Powerscreen	330 †	-3	...	2.6	17.2
21½	16½	Prospect Inds	20½	...	...	4.9	11.7
65	37½	RPS Group	62	...	2.3	4.6	13.7
95	73	Radiant Metal	82	...	...	...	...
186	77	Ramco Oil	155	-5	1.0	0.8	51.9
1095	636	Rank Org	1070	-15	...	3.6	23.1
33	18	Ransomes	22½	+1½	...	...	...
725	532	Reckitt Colm	674	+2	...	3.1	15.5
77	50	Record	70	...	5.6	6.4	34.4
7½	2½	Reece	4½	...	...	...	...
282	131	Relyon	281	...	5.0	2.2	33.7
308	208	Renishaw	305	...	...	2.7	36.2
135	55	Renold	133 †	-1	...	1.6	...
1904	1240	Reuters	1962	+29	22.1	1.4	32.4
87	24½	Rexmore	82	-2	2.0	3.1	...
200	91	Ricardo Group	198	-2	...	3.6	28.1
76	58	Richard (Leics)	71	...	3.7	6.6	...
105	63	Richardson West	102	...	3.0	3.2	26.1
142	70	Ropner	138	...	8.2	7.3	19.6
136	97	-do- 'A'	134	...	8.2	7.7	19.0
38	14	Ross Gp	22	...	0.6	3.7	9.0
195	131½	Rotork	185	-2	...	2.5	21.6
190	89	Rubicon	170	-2	...	3.2	21.6
75	43	Russell (A)	74	...	...	0.8	...
38	15	SEP Indl	36 †	...	0.8	2.8	∞
1269½	625	SKF 'B'	1156½	-12½	...	...	...
263½	205	Scapa	262 †	+1	...	2.7	19.5
238	179	Scholl	192	-1	...	4.1	14.0
237	177	Scotia	232	-3	...	...	...
1258	917	Securicor	1258	...	...	0.3	35.6
994	582	-do- 'A'	994	...	...	0.4	28.1
867	465	Security Serv	867	+3	5.6	0.8	∞
144½	77	Senior Eng	144½	...	...	2.8	24.1
361	278	Seton Health	327 †	...	...	2.3	19.3
166	88	Shiloh	150	...	3.0	2.5	16.2
341	271	Sidlaw	335 †	...	...	3.9	16.0
600	427	Siebe	586 †	-1	...	2.2	20.7
383	280	Silentnight	374	-1	...	2.7	20.3
181	102	Sime Darby	137	-8	...	4.0	∞
142	32	Simon Eng	126	+1	...	...	...
259	180	Sinclair (Wm)	210	...	...	4.2	16.3
47	35	Six Hundred	43	...	...	4.4	...
164	134	Smith & Neph	154½	-½	...	2.8	17.2
513	373	Smithkline	429	+1	9.6	2.8	15.5
450	340	Smithkline Uts	395	+3	...	3.1	13.4
527½	320	Smiths Ind	491	-3	...	2.0	19.7
140	58	Sthn Bus	88 †	...	...	5.3	4.6
530	205	Spandex	530	...	...	1.6	25.6
660	380	Spear (JW)	550	...	4.5	1.0	10.3
392½	314	Spirax-Sarco	392	...	...	3.0	26.6
145	44	Spring Ram	79½	-1	...	0.9	...
270	201	Staveley	234	-1	...	3.2	14.4
236	126	Sterling Ind	236 †	+2	...	3.1	36.2
280	97	Suter	207	+2	9.0	5.4	21.7
611	344	Swire Pacfc 'A'	567	-18	...	1.3	∞
7	1	Sycamore	3½	...	...	...	...
78	53	Sykes-Pick	55	...	3.0	7.0	10.5
176	120	Sytone	176 †	...	...	3.4	23.4
455	279	TI	417½	-2½	...	3.2	28.3
44	12	TLS Range	40	...	0.2	0.8	...
373	211	TT Group	373	...	...	2.3	23.0
292	201	Takare	274	+1	...	0.8	23.9
866	618	Taleana Chem	779½	+42	...	0.4	14.6
68	24	Tex Hldgs	53	-2	...	...	...
109	70	Tinsley (E)	101 †	...	...	6.9	17.4
240	180	Titon	220 †	+1	4.2	2.4	∞
283	212½	Tomkins	274 †	-2	...	3.0	30.2
113	59	Trafalgar H	105½	+2	...	3.9	...
116	61	Transfer Tech	88	...	3.2	4.5	11.1
190	120	Triplex Lloyd	158 †	...	...	5.5	19.0
302	214	UniChem	297	...	6.4	2.7	19.4
415	279½	Unidare	415	...	...	3.1	...
76	11½	Unigroup	36	-1	...	...	...
1249	938	Unilever	1193	+6	22.2	2.3	16.2
8112½	6362½	Unilever (NV)	7781½	...	...	2.7	12.9
24½	9	Utd Inds	15½	...	...	...	...
975	513	VSEL	975	+3	...	1.9	10.5
20½	6½	Vernon	20½	-½	...	...	...
193½	95½	Vickers	183	-1	...	1.9	...
367	243	Victaulic	316	...	...	3.1	15.6
485	283	Vinten	485	+1	...	1.9	22.6
727	427	Vosper Thorny	722	...	...	2.8	16.8
48	33	WSP Hldgs	46	...	...	7.3	12.0
480	368	Wagon Ind	478 †	...	...	4.6	21.1
8½	1½	Wakebourne	3½	...	...	...	12.7
112	71	Walker Greenbk	111	...	3.1	3.5	28.3
304	201	Wassall	295	-6	2.7	1.2	29.8
51	22	Wcford Wrgwd	49	...	...	...	...
345	252	Weir	334	...	...	2.3	18.8
993	604	Wellcome	690	...	...	3.2	14.2
30	16	Wellman	27½	...	0.9	4.1	44.9
400	280	West Hldmore	396	-3	...	1.2	25.4
515	425	Whatman	525	...	9.7	2.4	17.6
353	211	Whessoe	228 †	-6	...	4.3	11.2
104	22	Whitecroft	103	...	...	...	...
12½	4½	Widney	11	...	...	...	...
143	44	Wilkes (James)	142	...	3.9	...	41.5
421	295½	Williams Hldg	409	-1	12.5	3.8	21.4
46½	17	Wilshaw	44 †	...	...	1.6	22.7
916	533	Wolseley	908 †	+1	...	1.8	27.1
155	125	Wood (Arthur)	155	...	1.5	1.2	58.5
46	35	Wyko	40	...	...	1.6	...
88	38	Young (H)	78	...	3.3	5.3	∞

INSURANCE

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
1997½	1193½	Alex & Alex	1387½	+6½	...	4.8	...
2406½	1787½	Am Gen	1925	-25	...	3.8	...
86	30	Archer (AJ)	77½	...	...	1.6	...
158	118	Bradstock	158	+3	5.5	4.5	∞
530	359½	Britannic	517	...	...	2.8	...
711	356	Com Union	682	-10	...	4.4	...
1750	1225	Dom & Gen	1750	...	...	1.6	23.1
63	18	FAI	55	...	...	...	...
190	166	Fenchurch Grp	189	...	...	4.8	16.9
757	546	Gen Accident	729	-9	26.7	4.6	...
240	160	GRE	236	-2	7.1	3.8	19.6
457	293	Heath C E	430	-5	...	4.7	...
228	122	Hogg Gp	130	-22	8.1	7.8	11.8
323	255	Independent Ins	311	+3	...	3.3	28.6
215	162	HB Group	184	-8	...	5.1	18.9
567	408½	Legal & Gen	523	-5	...	4.6	31.8
1271½	768½	Liberty Life	1225	...	...	2.6	19.5
121	99	LIMIT	116	-2	...	...	...
471	403	Lloyds Abbey	450	+4	17.3	4.8	16.2
338	253	Lloyd Thomp	305	-3	6.7	2.7	19.0
443	274	Londn & Man	407	-4	14.7	4.5	30.0
462	321	Lowndes Lamb	462 †	...	14.0	3.8	16.6
6743½	5250½	Marsh McLn	5369½	-31½	...	3.3	...
160	139	Nelson Hurst	160	+1	...	4.4	16.0
130	76	Ortel	120	...	...	5.2	...
83	50½	PWS	82 †	...	4.0	6.1	∞
385	282½	Prudential	354	+2	...	4.3	23.5
404	266½	Refuge	380	...	...	3.5	42.4
347	248	Royal	327	-2	...	2.5	...
204	150	Sedgwick	196	-3	...	3.8	24.2
201	100	Steel Burrill	125	-1	...	12.0	7.4
89	48	Sturge Hldgs	76	...	...	5.1	62.8
418	307	Sun Alliance	406	+6	14.2	4.4	...
88	50	Trade Indemnity	85	...	...	...	...
438	299	Transatlantic	438	+16	12.0	3.4	40.6
773	499	Utd Friendly	645	...	15.1	2.9	28.1
245	171	Willis Corroon	229	-6	...	3.6	32.8
25	13½	Windsor	23	...	...	...	18.1

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
2024	1548	Alliance	2014	+3	45.5	2.8	...
161	124	BZW Conv	154	...	7.8	6.3	...
213	137½	Bankers	210 †	-½	...	2.2	...
372	264	Baring Tribune	369	...	6.4	2.2	...
229	131	Berry Starq	229	...	2.2	1.2	...
120½	96½	Br Assets	115	-1	...	4.7	...
98	57½	Br Empire Sec	95½	-1	...	1.2	...
44	14	-do- Wnts	42	-1	...	...	...
225	156	Br Inv	225	+1	4.6	2.6	...
262	174	Brunner	259½	-½	5.2	2.6	∞
221	130	Contl Asset	207	...	2.4	1.4	...
195	143	Derby Inc	158	...	...	11.3	...
325	195	-do- Cap	310	-5	...	...	...
97	62	Drayton Blue	95	...	8.4	11.1	...
105	35	-do- Eng Intl	104	+1	1.0	1.2	...
150½	84	-do- Far East	140	+½	0.6	0.6	...
165½	95	-do- Korea	160	-2	0.5	0.4	...
784	576	Dunedin Inc G	775	-4	...	4.2	...
100	76	-do- Japan	94	+½	...	...	...
65	34	-do- Warrants	64	+2	...	...	...
807	513	-do- Wwde	793	-1	...	1.5	...
332	222	Dundee & Lon	331 †	...	...	3.4	...
357½	250½	Edinburgh	347	+½	8.5	3.1	...
352	183	Electra Inv	342 †	+½	...	2.6	...
210	141	Electric Gen	208 †	...	3.1	1.9	...
124	85	English Scot	124	...	...	...	...
341	205	European Asset	337	...	...	2.1	...
165	77	Finsbury 'A'	164½	...	...	3.0	2.3
331	248	Fleming Amer	331	+1	0.8	0.3	...
145	91	Fleming Chinese	119	-2½	...	...	...
92	52	-do- Warrants	75	-3	...	...	...
258	190½	-do- Claver	258	+4	...	2.6	...
365	212	Do Contl	365	+1	2.7	0.9	...
244	147	-do- Emrg	244	+1	...	2.4	...
459	213	-do- F East	395	-4	1.1	0.3	...
402	246	-do- Fledg	402	+3	3.0	0.9	...
122	93	-do- Hi Inc	112	...	...	4.9	...
260	136	-do- Japan	247	-5	...	0.2	...
349½	250	-do- Merc	337 †	...	6.7	2.5	...
335	212	-do- Ovsas	329	+1	4.2	1.6	...
303½	203	Foreign & Col	297	+½	...	1.5	...
140	59½	-do- Emg Mkts	133	...	0.2	0.3	∞
78½	44	-do- Enterprise	75½	-½	0.4	0.7	...
252	164	-do- Eurotst	250	...	...	0.6	...
145	87	-do- German	125	-1	0.5	0.5	...
357	191	-do- Pacific	337	+1	...	0.6	...
187	116	-do- Smaller	187 †	...	1.8	1.2	...
276	145	GT Japan	274	+6	...	0.6	...
185	65	Genl Cons Cap	181	-1	...	...	...
127½	96½	-do- Inc	112	...	...	9.4	...
179	115	Govett Am Smlr	176	...	...	...	...
144	94	-do- Emg Mkts	138	...	...	...	...
439	184	-do- Oriental	387	-1	0.9	0.3	...
339½	207	-do- Strategy	332	...	...	2.5	...
451	340	Greenfriar	451	...	...	1.4	...
19	5	Gresham House	19	...	...	...	...
154	124	Inv Cap	151	...	...	4.2	...
114	77	IBS UK Smlr	113	...	2.8	1.1	...
236	159½	Kleinwort Chr	231	-½	5.1	2.9	∞
264	176	-do- O'seas	256	-1½	3.3	1.6	...
159	108	-do- Smlr	158	...	...	2.8	...
826	540	Law Debenture	813	-5	18.5	2.8	...
226	164	Majedie	220	...	...	3.8	...
321	221	Merchants	319½	...	...	4.3	...
3343½	1850	Merrill Lynch	2626½	-31¼	...	...	...
592	383	Monks Inv Tst	567 †	-2	...	1.5	...
154	105	Morg Gren Inc	151	...	4.5	3.2	∞
62	23	Do Warrants	62	...	...	...	...
66	39	Murray Euro	64	...	0.1	0.3	...
23½	4½	Do Wts	20½	...	...	...	...
389	282	Murray Income	378 †	-3	10.9	3.6	...
395	265	-do- Intl	384 †	-1	11.6	3.8	...
546	263	-do- Small	530	+1	...	1.0	...
103	69½	-do- S/C Inc	98	...	...	14.2	...
188	73	-do- S/C Cap	186	+1	...	...	...
3400	2750	-do- S/C Uts	3400	...	...	3.8	...
160	142½	-do- S/C DP	160	...	...	...	...
361	220	-do- Vent	359	...	...	3.8	...
95	68	Nwsbrog Inc	95	...	6.7	9.8	...
386	249	O'seas Inv Tst	378	-1	...	1.0	...
647	285	Pacific Assets	558	-15	1.1	0.2	...
545	187	Do Warrants	487	-12	...	...	...
8950	7650	Personal Assets	8925	-25	19.0	2.7	...
189	100	RIT Cap Ptnr	180	-2	1.1	0.8	...
127	108	River & Mere	125	...	9.2	9.2	...
465	350	Robeco	430	...	...	2.9	...
459	348	Rolinco	439	...	...	1.8	...
323	214	St Andrew Inv	320	+4	7.8	3.1	∞
182	131	Scot American	177	+½	...	3.3	...
371	156	Scot Asian	337	-4	...	...	...
1090	225	-do- Warrants	963	-12	...	...	...
95½	63½	-do- Eastern	92½	+½	1.5	2.1	...
259	183	Scottish	257 †	...	4.9	2.4	∞
254½	176	-do- Mtgs	252	-1½	4.0	2.0	...
127½	71	-do- Value	127½	+1	1.8	1.8	∞
1791	1350	Second Alliance	1778	-2	...	2.7	...
106	74½	Secs Tst of Scot	102	-1	3.2	4.0	...
177	109½	Selective Asset	176	...	1.4	1.0	∞
48	14	Sphere Inv	48	+½	3.4	9.1	∞
205	112	TR Far East	195	...	...	3.4	...
172½	128	TR City Of Lon	172½	+7½	...	3.5	...
249	110	TR Pacific	211	-4	0.3	0.2	...
48	12	TR Property	44	...	0.9	2.7	...
148	47	TR Tech Inv	148	+3	1.7	1.5	...
229½	146	TR Smlr Cos	222	-1	...	2.1	...
412	283	Temple Bar	391	-6	13.2	4.2	...
135	69	Thmtn Asian E	126	-2	0.5	0.5	...
95	54	Throgmorton	94½	+½	2.3	3.1	...
553	303	Thmg Dual Gp	535	-3	...	...	...
266	178	USDC Invest	266	...	4.5	2.1	...
122½	76½	Value Inc Tst	122	...	4.0	4.1	...
970	542	Whitbread Inv	925	...	16.5	2.2	...
250½	181	Witan	247	-2	5.6	2.8	...

LEISURE

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
576	369	Airtours	561 †	-8	...	2.0	17.9
64	41	Ald Leis	45	...	...	8.3	14.7
668	194	Anglia TV	655	...	...	1.8	30.3
111	63	Baldwin	108	...	4.6	5.3	14.7
287	192	Barr & W 'A'	287	...	10.0	4.4	18.5
1245	930	Boosey Hwky	1245	...	22.0	2.2	18.7
183	90	Border TV	182	+2	3.6	2.5	14.3
10½	4	Brent Walker	6½	...	...	...	...
150	48	Bristol Scotts	105	...	...	...	...
9	2½	Buckingham Intl	6	...	...	...	...
282	44	Campari	68	+4	8.2	16.1	...
401	171	Capital Radio	401	+1	5.7	1.8	∞
1047	520	Carlton Comm	1001	-6	...	2.4	23.6
283	158	Castle Comm	283	+5	...	3.8	18.6
3130	1615	Central TV	3075	+10	39.0	1.6	33.5
124	61	Chrysalis	118 †	...	3.2	3.4	...
730	490	Campass Gp	722	-1	...	2.2	49.9
350	175	Eurocamp	264	...	9.7	4.6	10.9
1180	268	Euro Disney	415	+3½	...	2.8	...
8	1½	Euro Leisure	2½	...	...	...	...
39½	18	Ex-Lands	37	-½	...	1.2	...
407	245	Fairline Boats	375	-15	...	3.6	34.6
378	232	First Leisure	342	-2	6.5	2.4	∞
385	71	Flextech	379 #	...	0.5	0.2	...
798	298	GWR Gp	798	+13	9.0	1.4	∞
280	149	Grampian	259	...	0.5	3.1	17.9
22	4½	Greenwich Com	15	...	...	...	...
129	19	HTV Group	124½	-½	...	...	55.3
38	30	Hi-Tec Sports	37	...	...	3.2	...
16½	5½	Kunick	16½	+1	...	...	13.5
703	405	LWT Hldgs	688	-3	...	0.9	31.8
600	327	Man Utd	588	+3	...	4.1	23.7
48	7½	Northern	44	...	...	...	8.5
148	59	Owners Abrd	102	-1	3.9	4.8	8.2
88	33	The Pelican Gp	87	+1	1.1	1.6	20.4
181	55	Prism Leisure	178	...	3.2	2.3	16.5
62	16	Quadrant Grp	37	...	...	...	...
485	274	Radio Clyde	485 †	+5	...	2.4	21.6
210	132	Rainsdens (R)	206	...	4.5	2.7	27.3
553	410	Scot TV	523	+1	10.3	2.5	25.7
94	37	Southern Radio	93 †	+1	...	1.7	41.2
338	168	Stanley Leisure	333	...	5.2	2.0	26.1
10	5½	Sunleigh	7	...	...	...	...
145	115	Sunset & Vine	130	...	3.5	3.4	19.9
430	349½	Tunjong	349½	...	...	0.5	18.7
2½	1	Ticketing	2½	...	...	...	...
117	84	Tottenham Hot	94 †	...	...	2.7	4.9
100	44	Trans-World	96	...	0.8	1.0	35.0
609	274	Ulster TV	608	+3	12.0	2.5	18.6
137	62	Vardon	130	-2	0.8	0.8	38.7
235	110	Yorkshire TV	235	...	8.0	4.4	7.0
120	85	Zetters Gp	115	...	8.0	9.0	12.6

MINING

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
6319½	1800	Am Gold	5906½	-25	...	3.8	26.5
1887½	1018½	Ang Am Coal	1818½	-6½	...	5.1	9.4
3075	1125	Ang Am	2978½	+21½	...	2.5	25.2
33½	8½	Anglo Pac Res	30½	...	...	...	...
197	33	Blyvoors	129½	+½	...	...	...
40	18	Bracken	30	...	...	31.0	5.0
896	233	Buffels	728	-7½	...	9.2	5.2
6	1	Bute	4	-¼	...	...	...
880½	546	CRA	838	+1	...	2.5	26.8
43½	11	Chiff Res	39½	...	...	...	...
1730	782½	De Beers	1612½	-25	...	3.1	21.9
165	37½	Deelkraal	117½	+½	...	1.7	8.6
96	7	Doornfontein	50½	...	...	...	...
914	388	Driefontein	774 †	+1	...	4.3	12.6
786	120	Durban	619½	+½	...	...	...
201	47	E Rand Gold	132½	+½	...	8.3	3.6
175	35	E Rand Prop	96½	+4	...	...	...
604	117	Elandsrand	431	+½	...	4.6	∞
1239	292	FS Cons	974½	+1½	...	6.6	12.5
80	8	FS Dev	45	+2	...	...	...
1800	725	GFSA	1469½	...	...	2.8	26.3
158	62½	Gencor	127½	...	...	7.2	13.9
80½	35½	GM Kalgoorli	75½	-½	...	1.8	30.9
22½	5	Greenwich 'A'	15½	...	...	...	...
202	49	Grootvlei	127½	-3½	...	8.1	7.7
418	78	Harmony	381½	...	...	...	...
430	87	Hartes	386½	+10½	...	7.3	9.7
20½	8½	Incoco	17½	...	...	...	...
1028½	490½	Impala Plat	853½	-6½	...	3.3	27.5
16½	6	Kenmare Res	14½	...	...	...	...
1315½	331½	Kinross	1070½	-8½	...	5.7	12.0
913	319	Kloof	732 †	+1	...	3.3	8.2
137	25	Leslie	89	...	...	13.0	4.7
359	13	Loraine	221	+7	...	...	...
950	620	Lydenburg	950	...	...	2.0	...
132½	10	MIM	128½	+1	...	1.8	55.8
1512	830	Minorco	1452	...	...	2.7	17.2
181½	91	Nth Brkn Hill	169½	...	...	3.0	26.0
4587½	612½	Orange Free	2899½	-12½	...	5.2	14.5
894	607	RTZ	855	+2	...	2.8	24.3
225	108½	Rand Mines	187½	...	...	6.1	∞
807½	150	Randfontein	627½	+½	...	6.5	6.3
283	115	Renison	258	...	...	1.8	28.7
1346½	850	Rustnbg	1186½	-15½	...	2.8	...
756	193	St Helena	627½	-3½	...	7.0	12.8
2887½	475	Southvaal	2065½	+3½	...	4.6	∞
119	18	Stilfontein	83½	-3½	...	27.9	13.8
201	58	Unisel	125½	+13½	...	3.5	12.0
7800	1800	Vaal Reefs	6250½	-40½	...	4.4	∞
813	154	Welkom	644½	-3½	...	5.2	14.4
640	35	Western Areas	508½	-9½	...	5.2	3.5
3162½	987½	Western Deep	2443½	-21½	...	4.6	∞
350½	176	Westn Mining	335	+3½	...	1.5	...
1225	321½	Winkels	912½	-15½	...	5.1	8.7
84	40	Zambia Copper	80	+3	...	...	...
68	18	Zandpan	60	...	...	7.7	10.9

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
258	233	Abbey Panels	238	...	...	...	...
135	95	Airflow Stream	115	...	3.0	3.3	11.1
175	78	Appleyard	169	...	...	3.8	...
356	203	Bletchley Mtr	335	...	...	3.2	18.0
207	120	Bostrom	207	...	6.0	3.6	36.6
468	165	Br Aerospace	436	-3	7.3	2.1	...
58	19½	Burndene	55 †	+2	...	4.0	14.8
435	303	Caffyns	425	...	11.5	3.4	22.5
18	4½	Cavendale	18	...	...	...	...
143	68	Central Mtrs	126	...	4.0	4.1	∞
42	18	Cook (DC)	37	-1	0.9	3.0	21.8
332½	156	Cowie (T)	330	+1	6.6	2.5	25.1
161	66	Dag Motors	161	+2	5.7	4.5	20.1
156	102½	Davenport Vern	156	...	4.2	3.4	∞
330	155	ERF	325	+2	2.0	0.8	...
173	92	Europetn Mtr	170	...	...	2.7	23.9
479	208	Evans Halshw	479	...	11.4	3.0	13.8
293	211	FR Group	287	+6	...	3.1	13.4
4993½	2843½	Ford Motor	4350	-47½	...	...	...
4143½	2143½	General Mtr	3956½	-56½	...	1.3	...
75	38	Gowrings	71	...	2.0	3.5	...
326	85	Henlys	326	...	3.5	1.3	...
1056	769	Honda Motor	980	+13½	...	0.9	...
48	15	Jacks (Wm)	43	...	...	...	...
108	66	Jessups	105	...	4.5	5.4	...
180	97	Kwik-Fit	178½	+½	...	2.5	28.2
510	281	Lex Service	507½	+4½	...	2.8	27.7
240	85	Lookers	239	-1	6.5	3.5	∞
215	126	Lucas	212	-2	...	4.1	...
29½	21	Malaya Grp	29½	...	...	...	...
299	224½	Pendragon	298	...	...	2.7	24.5
223	101½	Perry Gp	223	...	...	4.0	...
190	108	Quicks Group	178	...	...	3.3	22.7
186	96½	Rolls-Royce	185	+2	...	3.4	...
245½	164	T & N	245	+1	...	5.5	34.9
285	163	Trinity Hldgs	284 †	...	...	2.4	26.4
207	125	Vardy (Reg)	206	...	...	2.6	28.6
275	121	Westland	273 †	...	...	2.0	19.3

NEWS, PUBLISHERS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
242	103	Adscene	242	+2	5.0	2.6	24.8
350	315	Black (A&C)	335	...	13.5	5.0	13.7
608	380	Blenheim Gp	558	+3	...	3.3	13.3
380	275	Bristol	378 †	...	...	4.0	34.1
£129½	7779	Daily Mail	£129½	+325	...	1.4	30.3
£129½	7700	Daily Mail 'A'	£129½	+325	...	1.4	30.3
355	270	Dorling Kind	287	-2	...	1.4	28.0
6650	4337½	Elsevier	6331½	-46½	...	1.5	21.7
476	322	EMAP	465	+3	...	2.2	28.7
1525	873	Euromoney Pb	1508	...	...	3.1	26.5
264	154	Harrington K	182	-8	4.7	3.2	14.9
490½	159½	Haynes Pub	485	-22	...	1.4	27.4
363	334	Hodder H'line	354	...	5.1	1.8	30.1
144	99	Home Counts	144	+4	5.2	4.6	...
185	30	Intl Bus Comm	182	-2	...	...	26.3
15	6½	Lnr Cm & Data	13	...	...	...	...
510	240	Independent	510	...	...	2.5	27.5
615	395	Johnston Press	610	-3	6.5	1.3	26.4
355	243	Metal Bulletin	355	...	8.2	2.8	25.1
203	88	Mirror Gp	195½	-4½	...	...	...
515	297	News Corp	465	+½	...	0.3	...
301	189	News Intl	277	-1	...	0.6	17.8
664	342	Pearson	664	+9	...	2.3	36.1
739	510	Portsmth Sund	730	...	...	1.6	20.1
923	618	Reed Int	906	+1	...	2.4	29.5
208	98	Southnews	208	+8	2.3	1.4	38.5
193	90	Sterling Pub	188	...	...	2.1	22.8
550	328	Telegraph	550	+6	...	2.7	21.3
885	715	Thomson Corp	835	-50	30.1	4.5	41.3
492	313	Trinity Intl	462	-5	9.0	2.4	27.7
39	21	Unit Groups	28	-3	...	...	...
687	480½	Utd Nwspapers	687	+7	...	3.0	19.1

OILS, GAS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
37	17	Aran Energy	27½	-½	...	...	20.8
61	33	Arcon Intl	40	-4	...	...	...
71	41½	Ass Oil & Gas	67½	+½	...	...	...
63	26	Aviva Pet	56	...	...	...	...
16	5½	Berkeley	8½	...	...	...	...
230	145	Br Borneo	229	...	7.1	3.8	8.9
361½	276	British Gas	345	+3	14.2	5.1	16.7
389½	225	Br Petroleum	389 †	+½	8.4	2.8	29.0
3½	1	Bula Resources	3½	...	...	...	...
865	675	Burmah Castrl	841	...	...	3.8	19.6
88	32	Cairn Energy	59	...	...	...	8.4
395	223	Calor Gp	387	-2	...	4.2	19.7
60½	32½	Clyde Pet	49	+½	...	...	...
44	25	Coplex Res	28	+½	...	...	...
26	10½	Edin Oil & Gas	23½	-½	...	...	...
521	367	Enterprise	461	-2	...	4.3	25.4
88	26	Exp Co Louis	35	...	...	...	...
34½	18½	Fairhaven Intl	24½	...	...	4.4	8.8
10½	4	Fortune	5	...	...	...	...
67	45	Goal Pet	59	...	1.4	3.0	11.3
48	18	Gt Western Res	39½	...	...	...	...
181	104½	Hardy O & G	180	-1	...	0.8	14.9
55	18½	Holt Energy	49	-1	...	...	...
195	97	LASMO	122	...	...	3.4	24.7
103	63	-do- Units	68	-2	0.4	18.2	...
24	2	Mid Scot Res	5½	+1	...	...	...
61½	34	Monument	60½	+½	...	...	...
9	4	New London	5½	...	...	...	...
33	21	Nth Sea Assets	30	...	1.0	4.3	40.0
50	27	Oil Search	48	...	...	...	...
19½	11½	Petrez	19	+½	...	...	...
162	99	Pict Pet	159	-2	...	...	8.7
39½	18	Premier	37½	...	...	...	...
168	50	Presidio	158	...	...	4.2	...
410	200	Ranger	380	-5	...	4.5	...
7700	5150	Royal Dtch Fl	7222½	-19½	...	4.2	18.2
4580	3600	Schlumberger	3757½	-146½	...	2.1	...
67	47	Seafield	55	...	...	...	...
749	515	Shell	734	-2	21.8	3.9	22.3
203	140	Sunrise Eng Sv	140	...	...	...	...
41	15	Triton Europe	33	...	...	...	...
16½	6	Vikers Grp	16	...	...	1.3	...
206	138	Woodside	199½	...	...	...	...

PAPER, PRINT, ADVTG

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
184	120	AG Holdings	182	...	...	3.6	16.5
444	249	API	444 †	...	...	2.3	27.0
286	144	Arjo Wiggins	277	...	...	2.9	46.8
570	408	Abbott Mead	570	+6	9.5	2.3	29.9
40	13	Aegis Gp	23	...	...	...	...
212	118	Aspen Comms	180	...	4.9	3.4	16.3
26	7	BBB Design	24	...	...	...	...
459	223	Bemrose	453	-1	...	3.6	20.8
30½	7	Birkdale	11½	...	...	...	...
175	118	Bunzl	164	-3	4.0	3.0	24.7
430	257	CIA Gp	430	...	4.4	1.3	27.2
230	98	Capital Inds	168	+3	...	2.7	16.1
95	44	City of Lond	87	-1	...	5.3	18.0
347	169	Cropper (James)	347	...	3.2	1.2	33.5
104	51	Delyn Group	104	...	1.6	2.0	34.0
120	94	Dolphin Pack	120	+1	6.5	4.7	29.6
87	42	Dudley Jenkins	81	...	...	4.9	18.2
16½	10½	Elswick	14½	-½	...	3.5	16.5
90	41	Fairway Group	90	...	3.2	4.5	28.5
389	271	Ferguson Intl	387	-1	...	4.0	17.5
140	92	Ferry Pick	140	...	...	5.0	37.6
204	74	Filofax	204	+3	...	0.9	26.3
20	8	Flash	17	+1	...	...	...
154	69	Gibbon Lyons	145 †	+3	5.2	4.5	10.5
285	205	Gold Greenlees	255	-2	8.4	4.2	22.7
41	17	Goodhead	34	+3	0.0	0.2	∞
40	19	Hunterprint	25	...	...	...	...
185	136	Interbrepe	160	...	...	6.1	11.8
288	191	Jarvis Porter	288	...	...	2.1	26.9
32	15½	Lopex	28	...	...	...	...
38½	26	MMI	35	+2½	...	...	...
410	175	More O'Ferrall	409	...	13.2	3.9	30.0
146	48	NMC Group	144 †	-1	2.7	2.4	22.2
300	66	Osborne & Little	300 †	...	...	2.1	32.9
562	455	Portals	562	+4	...	3.3	19.4
3½	1½	Premier Hlth	2½	...	...	...	...
309	159	Quarto	309	...	...	2.3	18.0
376	220	St Ives Gp	362	-4	...	1.9	25.9
186	133	Saatchi	150	-2	...	...	...
502	392	Sappi	484	+½	...	0.8	8.1
30½	8½	Secl	28½	...	...	...	...
43½	14	Shandwick	43½	+8	...	...	...
499	294	Smith David	482	-1	...	2.6	25.6
358	206	Smurfit (Jeff)	337	-1	...	1.6	8.1
108	45	Sonic	108 †	...	2.5	2.9	46.3
246	163	Sun-Plus	240	...	8.4	4.4	21.4
37	16½	Taylor Nelson	31	-2½	0.3	1.3	28.0
141	38	VTR	141	...	...	3.3	33.2
122	40	WPP	116	...	...	1.1	44
264	62	Wace	245	-11	...	0.8	...
300	203	Waddington (J)	249	-9½	...	4.1	18.7
472	270	Watmough	472	...	...	1.6	37.0
7	3	Westport	4½	...	...	...	...
44	12	Whitney Mckie	38	...	...	...	...
103	55	Wyndeham	103 †	...	...	1.8	22.1

PROPERTY

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
130	41	Allied Lon	128	...	...	3.4	20.4
48	35	Arcadian	47	...	...	...	...
16½	4½	Ascot Hldgs	8½	-1	...	...	...
143	52	Asda	143	...	...	1.9	25.0
166	88	Avonside	146	+3	4.1	3.1	23.2
2637½	2062½	BCE	2384½	-6½	...	...	...
782	396	Bilton	750	-1	18.9	3.1	27.1
94	17	Bourne End	92	...	...	1.4	...
276	150	Bradford	273	-1	5.9	2.7	27.7
23	5	Bredero	18½	+½	...	...	...
454	156½	Br Land	432	-5	...	2.0	49.1
276	148½	Brixton	257	-7	...	4.3	20.4
109	42	Burford	105	...	...	1.5	...
210	90	Cap & Regnl	209	...	1.3	0.8	...
285	120	Cardiff Prop	285	...	2.5	1.2	...
618	196	Chesterfield	616	...	11.5	2.3	44.7
69	12	City Site Ests	49	+5	...	...	...
52	12	Clarke Nicholls	30½	...	...	...	...
348	285	Compco	285	...	12.9	6.0	6.8
53	34	Conrad Ritbit	47	+1	...	...	...
1615	818	Daejan	1615	...	...	2.1	19.8
85	5	Dares Estates	12	-5½	...	...	...
144	51	Debenham Twsn	144 †	...	...	2.9	27.3
17	4	De Morgan	16	...	...	...	...
184	76	Dencora	184	...	3.0	2.0	...
698	263	Derwent Hldgs	698	...	8.7	1.6	...
45	10	Development Sec	38½	-½	...	...	...
63	24	Dwyer	63 †	...	...	...	...
406	170	Estates Agency	406	...	...	2.3	49.2
22	7½	Estates Gen	22	...	...	...	...
128	66	Evans Of Leeds	128	...	...	2.3	22.6
38½	11	Five Oaks	30½	...	...	...	...
67	30	Fletcher King	65 †	...	1.0	1.9	43.7
528	279½	Frogmore	518	-3	...	3.9	26.0
276	97	Grainger	275 †	...	5.2	2.4	∞
290	116½	Gt Portland	286	-3	...	4.1	23.5
21	7½	Greycoat	20½	...	...	...	...
269	101	HK Land	235	-3	...	2.3	28.6
84	35	Hambro Cntry	86	...	0.5	0.7	...
422	233	Hammerson	405	-1	10.0	3.3	30.0
341	127	Helical Bar	340	...	...	3.0	42.2
40	19	Hemingway	40	...	...	...	...
132	86	Herring Baker	77	-4	3.3	6.0	29.8
133	133	Jermyn	128	...	...	...	...
802	425	Land Sec	785	-10	23.1	3.9	20.9
122	73	Lon Mrch Sec	120 †	-1	4.0	4.2	18.2
28	...	Prism & Metro	9	-1	...	...	...
565	315½	MEPC	557 †	-1	...	2.6	50.4
12	5	McInerney A	12	...	...	...	...
190	90	McKay Secs	185	-3	1.5	0.8	8.1
9	2½	Marchwiel	9	...	...	...	...
41	12	Merivale Mie	40	...	...	...	...
58	28	Mountford	54	...	...	...	...
1300½	775	Mountview	1275	...	22.0	2.2	23.2
192	112	Mucklow (A&J)	192	...	...	3.0	39.9
58	38	Olives Prop	58	...	...	...	...
10½	1½	Orb	7½	...	...	...	...
188	18	PSIT	187	...	4.3	2.9	37.1
365	318	Peel	360	-5	4.3	1.4	...
15	5	Power Corp	10	...	...	...	...
50	22	Property Trust	43	...	...	...	12.3
63	35	Regian	43	...	...	...	...
40	11	Regalian	37	...	...	...	...
160	110	Rowlinson Secs	160	...	1.5	1.2	20.0
55	16	St Modwen Pty	55	...	0.9	2.0	41.0
78	39	Savile Ordn (I)	76 †	...	...	4.4	37.8
100	39	Savills	94 †	-2	...	2.3	37.2
112	37½	Scot Met	104	...	...	1.8	...
128	39	Shaftesbury	128	...	...	...	...
15½	5	Shield	11½	-½	...	...	3.0
315	138½	Slough Estates	285	-2	...	3.6	19.9
102	56	Southend Prop	100 †	...	...	3.0	...
29	16	Stanhope Props	29	...	...	...	...
234	114	Town Ests	234 †	...	2.1	1.1	...
152	79	Town Centre	152	...	...	2.8	27.2
98	43	Trafford Park	96	...	...	3.7	31.6
58	17	UK Land	45	-8	...	...	...
12	4	Union Square	10	...	...	...	...
314	180	Warner	312	...	10.4	4.2	28.5
246	168	Warnford	246	+1	7.5	3.9	17.8
8	2	Waterglade	4½	...	...	...	...
55	34	Watts	52	...	...	...	...
103	40	Wood John D	103	...	...	0.9	...

SHOES, LEATHER

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
34	11	Automagic	34	...	...	...	...
213	84	Headlam	212	...	...	1.8	47.9
300	285	Lambert	315	...	13.2	5.3	7.7
100	44	Pittards	73	+1	1.5	2.6	20.9
30	20	Strong & Fisher	22½	...	1.0	5.6	6.3
348	89	Stylo	344	...	...	1.5	...
66	53	UK Safety	64	...	...	5.1	2.1

TEXTILES

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
556	408	Allied Text	551	-5	12.7	2.9	17.7
71	54	Beckman (A)	70	...	...	0.4	15.0
41	21	Bolton Gp	27	...	...	...	...
226	141	Br Mohair	218	...	8.5	4.9	20.4
58	15	Chemwell	41	...	...	...	...
364	298	Claremont Gn	360	...	7.5	2.6	22.5
601	449	Courtauld Text	536	-3	13.9	3.2	14.7
53½	34	Cupida	33	...	...	...	...
248½	130	Dawson	155	+1	...	6.1	11.8
47	22	Drummond	35	...	...	...	...
89	45	Earpels	78 †	...	4.9	7.9	12.1
34	15	Foster (John)	29	...	...	...	...
133	82	Gaskell	120	...	4.2	4.4	...
249	156	Hicking Pntcst	242	-2	...	2.2	17.1
90	45	Jerome (S)	68	...	...	0.4	...
435	249	Lamont	423	...	12.0	3.5	28.0
515	353½	Leeds	505 †	...	...	2.1	17.7
122	73	Lyles (S)	100	...	...	4.1	...
215	89	Magellan	164	...	1.4	1.1	...
228	77½	Parkland	228 †	+3	...	0.9	...
105	82	Readicut	104½	-1	...	4.1	19.7
66	35	SEET	55	-1	...	...	...
147	72	Strier	137	+1	...	4.9	9.5
72	46	Stirling Gp	54	-5	1.9	4.4	14.9
51	25	Stoddard	44	...	...	4.3	40.9
312	250	Tomkinsons	312 †	+18	...	4.6	26.5
59	30½	West Trust	44 †	...	...	7.7	...
280	126	Yorklyde	279	...	...	2.4	18.3

TOBACCOS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
570	407	BAT	519	-2	...	4.6	15.5
495	315½	Rothmans	479	-5	...	3.3	15.0

TRANSPORT

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
588	349	Assoc Br Ports	585	-1	...	1.9	...
1072	707	BAA	1024	+6	...	2.0	25.4
126	106	Badgerline	123	...	...	4.2	14.6
490½	249	Br Airways	471 †	-6	...	2.8	21.1
113	58	Clarkson (H)	101	...	1.7	2.2	...
665	332	Eurotunnel Uts	615	...	...	...	...
87	44	Fisher (James)	87	+5	0.5	0.7	23.4
293	147	IoM Steam	280	...	...	3.6	15.2
55	28	Jacobs (JI)	50	...	0.5	1.3	...
111	41	Lon O'Seas Frts	109	...	...	1.2	20.0
490	264	Mersey Docks	490	+1	...	2.3	33.3
278	181	Nat Express	278	+3	...	3.2	28.7
291	218	NFC	284	-1	...	3.1	22.0
348	244	Ocean Group	339	-2	...	5.3	...
91	40	Ocean Wilson	86	...	4.0	5.8	15.6
686	504	P & O Dfd	676	+8	...	5.6	36.7
194	127	P & O 5 1/2%	156	+1	...	4.4	...
705	448	Powell Duffryn	682	-11	...	4.3	21.6
235	117	Seacon	226	...	5.4	3.0	14.2
178	112	Stagecoach	178	...	...	2.7	21.7
110½	31½	TNT	109½	+1½	...	...	...
895	624	Tibbet & Britten	850	...	12.6	1.8	34.1
382	37	Tiphook	62	...	...	...	...
326½	227	TDG	316	...	...	3.8	10.5
191	98	Ugland	107	...	...	...	...

WATER

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
610	455	Anglian Water	558 †	-15	...	4.8	11.1
357	244	Mid Kent Hdgs	357	...	...	3.8	13.2
761	547	Northumbrian	707 †	-8	...	4.1	8.3
611	431½	North West	555 †	-12	...	4.0	9.2
633	439	Severn Trent	587 †	-9	...	4.6	9.1
685	454	Sthrn Water	623 †	-4	...	4.4	10.0
1605	1225	SW Staffs	1570	...	48.5	3.9	11.2
675	465	South West	683 †	-9	...	4.8	10.3
611	484	Thames Water	571 †	-13	...	4.2	11.3
740	506	Welsh Water	697 †	-7	...	4.3	7.0
799½	536	Wessex Water	709 †	-8	...	3.9	11.3
630	473½	Yorkshire W	581 †	-11	...	4.7	4.7

Source: Finstat

● USM; # Price at suspension; † Ex dividend; ‡ Ex scrip; † Ex rights issue; ‡ Ex all; § Ex capital distribution; ∞ Figures or report awaited; ... No significant data.

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (under 5 years)

High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
102	100	Treas 8½% 1994	100 †	...	8.48	...
109	100	Treas 14½% 1994	100 †	-	14.37	5.19
109	101	Exch 13½% 1994	102	-	13.23	5.18
105	101	Treas 10% 1994	101	-	9.83	5.16
110	104	Exch 12½% 1994	104 †	-	12.00	5.10
105	103	Treas 9% 1994	103	...	8.72	4.98
111	106	Treas 12% 1995	106	...	11.23	4.96
98	94	Gas 3% 1990-95	98	...	3.06	4.07
109	107	Exch 10¼% 1995	107	...	9.55	5.06
110	112	Treas 12¾% 1995	112	-	11.29	5.12
120	116	Treas 14% 1996	116	-	12.03	5.21
125	120	Treas 15¼% 1996	121	-	12.60	5.31
120	115	Exch 13¼% 1996	116	-	11.33	5.32
112	108	Conv 10% 1996	111	-	8.95	5.42
122	118	Treas 13¼% 1997	120	-	10.96	5.55
114	110	Exch 10½% 1997	113	-	9.23	5.55
110	105	Treas 8¾% 1997	110 †	-	7.95	5.60
132	127	Exch 15% 1997	130	-	11.48	5.79
114	109	Exch 9¾% 1998	114	-	8.55	5.75
108	99	Treas 7¼% 1998	105	-	6.85	5.68
106	101	Treas 7¼% B 1998	105	-	6.86	5.69
102	97	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	101	-	6.63	5.23
131	125	Treas 14% 1998-01	130	-	10.74	5.92
140	133	Treas 15½% 1998	139	-	11.13	5.77
126	118	Exch 12% 1998	125	-	9.60	5.94
116	108	Treas 9½% 1999	115	-	8.22	5.83

MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
101	95	Treas 6% 1999	101 †	-	5.92	5.72
128	120	Exch 12¼% 1999	127	-	9.62	6.01
121	112	Treas 10½% 1999	120	-	8.70	5.90
121	112	Conv 10¼% 1999	120	-	8.49	5.98
116	106	Conv 9% 2000	115 †	-	7.80	5.96
136	125	Treas 13% 2000	135	-	9.57	6.20
106	97	Treas 7% 2001	105	-	6.64	6.09
122	109	Treas 10% 2001	121 †	-	8.24	6.23
123	108	Treas 9¾% 2002	122 †	-	7.98	6.35
113	97	Treas 8% 2003	112	-	7.12	6.24
127	109	Treas 10% 2003	125	-	7.96	6.39
129	116	Treas 11½% 2001-04	128	-	8.94	6.44
86	67	Fund 3½% 1999-04	84	-	4.14	5.44
105	97	Treas 6¾% 2004	103	-	6.50	6.22
125	105	Conv 9½% 2004	123	-	7.68	6.40
125	105	Conv 9½% 2005	124	-	7.65	6.43
143	126	Treas 12½% 2003-05	142	-	8.80	6.60
111	94	Treas 8% 2002-06	110	-	7.23	6.39
112	94	Treas 7¾% 2006	111	-	6.98	6.44
135	118	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	134	-	8.72	6.56
119	97	Treas 8½% 2007	117	-	7.21	6.49
151	131	Treas 13½% 2004-08	149	...	9.02	6.61
124	101	Treas 9% 2008	123	-	7.31	6.51

LONGS (over 15 years)

High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
115	92	Treas 8% 2009	114	-	7.01	6.52
126	100	Conv 9% 2011	125	-	7.18	6.53
127	100	Treas 9% 2012	126 †	-	7.13	6.53
94	70	Treas 5½% 2008-12	91	-	6.01	6.27
114	89	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	113	-	6.84	6.46
117	93	Treas 8% 2013	116	-	6.87	6.50
159	125	Exch 12% 2013-17	157	-1	7.60	6.68
128	97	Treas 8¾% 2017	127 †	-	6.87	6.46

UNDATED

High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
54	38	War Ln 3½%	53	-	6.52	...
37	27	Treas 2½%	36	-	6.80	...

INDEX-LINKED

High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
136	131	Treas IL 2% 1994	136	...	...	...
204	194	Treas IL 2% 1996	202	-	1.17	2.17
113	105	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	112	-	1.33	2.02
176	159	Treas IL 2½% 2001	176	-	2.11	2.50
173	153	Treas IL 2½% 2003	173	-	2.33	2.65
118	105	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	118	-	2.35	2.66
184	159	Treas IL 2% 2006	184	-	2.49	2.70
168	144	Treas IL 2½% 2009	167	-	2.65	2.86
175	148	Treas IL 2½% 2011	174 †	-	2.72	2.91
146	122	Treas IL 2½% 2013	144 †	-	2.76	2.93
157	130	Treas IL 2½% 2016	155	-	2.82	2.97
152	124	Treas IL 2½% 2020	151	-	2.87	3.01
129	102	Treas IL 2½% 2024	127	-	2.87	2.99
128	103	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	127	-	2.86	3.01

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The annual cost of a current account

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NatWest Current Plus	£108.12
Lloyds Classic	£96.25
TSB Interest Cheque Account	£68.50
First Direct Cheque Account	£0.00

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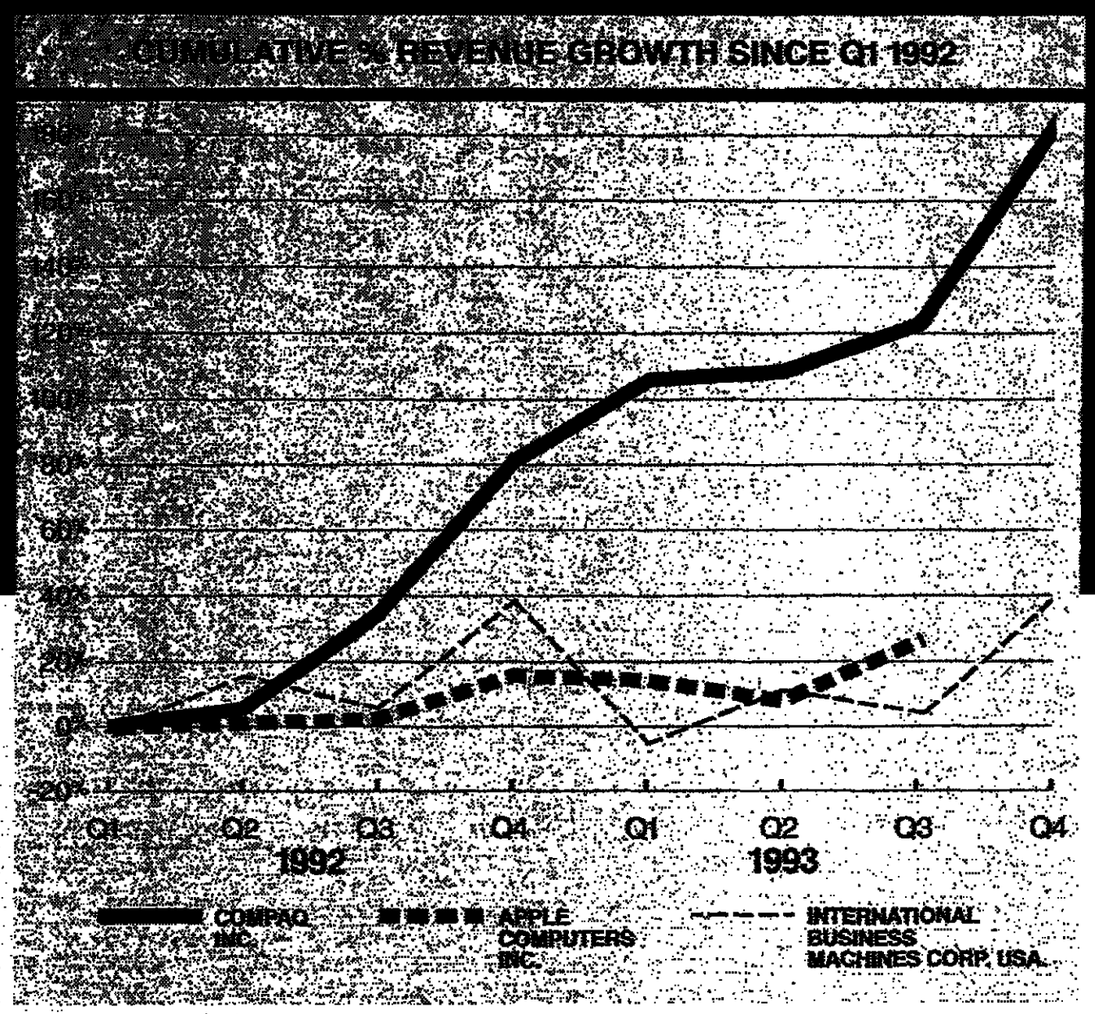
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THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

AIB UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD
St Helens Rd, Uxbridge, Middx UB8 1RZ
0345 259 703

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
Growth Amer	168.00	176.80	-1.60	...
Growth Equity	258.80	271.80	-1.20	1.13
Growth Euro	202.10	212.70	+0.60	...
Growth Pref Bal	121.30	125.70	...	0.96
Growth Gilt	82.76	85.32	-0.06	4.16
Growth Japan	167.80	176.70	+1.10	...

AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS
Equity & Law Hse, Corpn St, Coventry
0203 553 291

General Acc	556.10	591.00	-3.50	2.04
General Inc	501.00	533.00	-3.10	2.04
UK Growth Acc	380.60	404.90	-3.20	2.19
UK Growth Inc	266.40	283.50	-2.30	2.19
Higher Inc Acc	716.10	761.90	-5.80	3.07
Higher Inc Inc	429.20	455.60	-3.30	3.07
Gilts/Fxd Int Acc	197.20	208.20	-0.40	5.32
Gilts/Fxd Int Inc	103.80	108.40	-0.20	5.32
Nth America	261.10	277.80	-0.30	...
Far East	355.60	378.30	+1.30	...
Europe	271.80	291.30	+0.00	0.54
Bell Excell	75.64	80.47	-0.68	2.50
Brit Fedmals Acc	108.00	114.90	-0.60	3.86
Brit Fedmals Inc	81.93	87.17	-0.49	3.86
Global Opps	86.01	91.50	+0.02	...
Balanced Acc	56.99	60.63	-0.52	2.09
Balanced Inc	56.48	60.09	-0.30	2.09

ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS
80 Holdenhurst Rd, Bournemouth 0345 777 373

High Income				
Gilts & Fixed Inc	142.50	151.60	-0.30	5.29
High Inc Equity	181.00	192.50	-1.00	3.78
Worldwide Bond	272.20	288.60	-0.30	3.64
Capital Growth				
American Growth	309.30	330.80	-2.30	0.96
Asian Pacific	370.80	396.30	-3.20	...
Assets & Earnings	286.20	304.40	-1.00	1.70
Country & Energy	132.10	140.50	-0.20	0.39
1992 Enterprise	97.00	103.70	-0.30	1.40
Euro Capital Inc	130.10	139.10	+1.00	0.70
General	250.80	266.80	-1.30	2.04
Japan	130.80	139.90	+2.70	...
Masterfund	149.50	156.60	...	0.93
UK Growth Dist	147.20	156.50	-0.80	1.69
US Emerging Cos	139.30	148.10	-1.00	...
Income & Growth	420.60	447.40	-2.90	2.93
Ethical	76.75	81.77	-0.06	1.98
International	118.30	125.80	+0.60	1.14
Dividend & Growth	66.92	71.19	-0.40	3.57
Global Genth & Inc	64.74	68.87	+0.09	2.57

ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
14 Melville St, Edinburgh EH3 7NS
031 220 0733

UK Small Cos	1787.0	1884.0	...	...

ABTRUST UNIT TRST MGRS LTD
10 Queens Terrace, Aberdeen AB9 1QJ
0800 833 388

Aberdeen Portfolio	64.94	66.17†	-0.26	0.75
Amer Inc & Growth	45.93	48.61	-0.30	0.65
Cash	50.30	50.30†	-0.01	4.79
European	105.56	112.10	-0.05	...
European Income	100.70	107.10	...	1.40
Exempt	111.01	116.11†	-1.47	3.27
Extra Income	57.03	62.02†	-0.09	4.25
Far East Emg Ecn	120.10	130.00	-1.57	0.50
Fixed Interest	20.75	28.56†	...	6.46
Fixed Inv Tst	190.10	203.00	-0.04	0.83
Japan	188.90	201.40	+4.40	...
Latin American	80.10	85.14	-0.69	0.59
Pacific	75.40	80.76	-0.46	0.34
Property Share	75.63	83.90†	-0.28	1.57
UK Emerging Cos	73.26	78.20†	+0.41	1.59
UK Growth	48.67	52.35	-0.32	2.25
World Growth	79.49	84.84	-0.35	0.65
Ethical	66.27	70.76†	-0.42	2.39
Aberdeen Gilt Inc	59.24	56.26†	-0.05	7.26

ACUMA FUND MANAGERS LTD
5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Essex 0277 690 336

UK Equity Income	100.00	106.50	+0.60	2.74
UK Equity Growth	89.18	94.87	-0.65	1.98
European	68.32	72.68	+0.24	0.62
Nth American	68.54	72.92	-0.57	0.96
Far Eastern	72.26	76.87†	-1.07	0.33
Money	65.22	65.22†	+0.01	3.79
Fixed Interest	74.53	79.29	-0.05	6.13
Index Linked Gilt	70.46	74.96	-0.07	1.08

AEGON UNIT TRUSTS LTD
28 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YF
031 549 3232

British Growth	75.67	80.50	-0.16	2.13
British Income	85.55	91.01	-0.38	2.87
Select Portfolio	88.67	94.12	+0.20	...

ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD
181 High Street Broad Brestwood CM14 4DR
0452 305 988

Amly Income	81.82	86.81	-0.42	1.87
Income Builder Inc	73.37	78.05†	-0.55	2.58

ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC
Allied Dunbar Centre, Swindon SN1 1EL
IFA dlg: 0793 640 366 Client dlg: 0793 514 514

Balanced Trusts				
Growth & Income	261.00	279.00	-1.60	2.71
Capital	456.30	487.70	-2.50	1.59
Balanced	751.00	802.80†	-3.70	2.26
Accumulator	1346.0	1438.0	-7.00	2.66
Income Trusts				
American Income	50.24	53.70†	-0.46	3.31
High Income	459.50	491.20	-2.80	3.19
Equity Income	255.90	273.50†	-1.50	3.20
High Yield	282.10	301.50†	-1.70	3.11
Govt Securities	36.20	38.31	-0.17	4.79
International Trusts				
Amer Spec Sits	137.60	147.00	-0.60	0.24
European Growth	34.11	36.31	+0.32	0.44
International	161.10	176.20†	+1.00	0.53
Japan	204.40	218.50†	+5.30	0.01
Pacific	433.90	463.80†	+1.10	0.17
Recs of America	440.90	468.90†	-0.70	0.59
Worlde Asset Val	68.03	51.34	+0.34	0.02
Specialist Trusts				
Asset Value	575.80	615.50†	-4.30	2.03
Conv & Gilt	51.86	55.47†	-1.19	3.80
Smaller Cos	186.70	199.50†	-0.40	1.17
2nd Smaller Cos	178.30	190.60	-0.40	1.15
Recovery	156.80	167.60	-0.40	1.66
Met Min & City	159.40	170.30	-1.50	0.73
Ocean Earnings	181.40	407.70†	-2.10	1.93
Technology	160.90	171.70	+0.10	0.02
UK Special Sits	494.80	528.90	-1.40	1.82

B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
Manor Royal, Crawley RH10 2QP 0293 526 911

Council Out Fees	108.20	109.35	...	1.45
Foundtn Pens Fees	67.77	70.40	...	4.00

BSI-THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD
28 St John's Sq, London EC1M 4AE
071 251 6767

Capital	77.36	82.29†	-0.56	1.88
International	64.32	68.42	-0.50	0.49

BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD
1 Rutland Court, Edinburgh EH3 8EY
031 222 4242

America	302.40	326.80	-0.60	...
Bond	131.00	137.80†	-0.30	5.71
Brit Smlr Cos	106.20	113.00	-0.10	0.91
Conv & Gen	67.93	72.50	-0.61	4.81
Energy	452.00	492.40†	+1.70	0.23
Europe	430.70	460.90†	+0.60	0.28
Euro Smlr Cos	102.10	108.40	-0.40	0.88
Gen Smlr Cos	379.80	406.30†	-0.20	3.78
Japan	320.00	340.30	+6.60	...
Pacific	119.30	127.10†	-1.20	0.66
UK Smlr Cos	83.12	89.51†	-0.26	0.81
Japan Fd	735.20	756.40	+16.40	...
Mngd Fd	183.50	195.20†	+0.80	2.49

BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD
36 Queen St, London EC4R 1BN 071 489 9873

Brit & Oseas	303.50	319.50	...	1.14
Capital Gwth	124.00	130.50	...	2.06
Worlde Oppos	202.80	213.50	...	0.45

BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD
11 Broadway, Stratford E15 4BJ 081 534 5944
Balanced Trusts

Bst Inv Fd Inc	379.50	395.30	-1.60	2.19
European Bd Inc	99.41	102.90†	-0.30	1.25
Exempt	83.21	88.75	-0.46	3.48
Financial	83.37	89.06	-0.32	1.89
500	495.90	520.20	-3.60	2.02
General	297.60	318.30	-1.40	2.12
Property	247.10	264.20†	...	5.55
Trustee	202.20	216.20†	-1.10	1.67
Income Trusts				
Cash Inc	100.30	100.30†	...	4.53
Extra Income	129.80	138.80	-0.70	3.61
Gilt & Fxd Int	64.31	66.46	-0.06	7.50
Income	580.80	629.40†	-3.40	3.55
Income Builder	72.79	77.44	-0.43	4.14
Tst Income	71.47	76.04†	-0.30	2.68
Growth Trusts - UK				
Capital	126.50	135.20	-1.00	2.08
Leisure	131.10	140.20	-0.80	1.00
Recovery	454.60	486.20	-1.10	2.08
Smlr Cos Inc	45.08	48.34	-0.04	1.81
Special Sits	309.10	329.50	-1.90	1.54
Growth Trusts - Overseas				
America	136.70	145.00	-1.20	0.32
Aust Acc	272.20	289.60	-0.30	1.23
Aust Inc	170.40	181.20†	-0.10	1.23
Euro Gwth Inc	168.20	181.80	-0.40	0.47
Japan & Gen Inc	177.30	187.80	-3.50	...
Japan Spec Sits	77.38	81.97	-1.85	...
Unity Tech Inc	79.36	84.33	-0.15	0.40
Worldwide	182.50	193.80†	-0.70	0.36

BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD
PO Box 186, Beckenham, Kent BR3 4XQ
081 658 6000

American Growth	101.20	107.40	-0.60	...
Amer Smlr Cos	132.70	141.70	-0.50	...
Cash Trust	50.47	50.47	-0.01	4.80
Convertibles	63.37	67.98†	-0.29	4.60
Eastern	312.30	339.70	-3.50	1.60
Equity Income	98.61	104.90†	-0.50	4.90
European Growth	293.00	311.40	-1.10	1.50
Far East	241.20	255.20	-0.50	1.39
German Growth	71.10	75.88	-0.26	0.70
Global Bond	70.70	74.65†	-0.06	5.30
Global Growth	132.70	141.80	-0.70	...
Japan Growth	197.80	211.20	-1.00	...
Japan Sunrise	177.80	189.40	-2.00	...
Korea Trust	79.11	89.33	-0.68	...
Portfolio	142.80	152.50	-1.00	3.00
UK Growth	100.00	106.40	-0.30	2.90
UK Smaller Cos	100.60	107.50	-0.30	1.80
Select Managers	79.49	85.07	-0.37	2.00

BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD
Old Street, London EC1V 9HL
071 250 3500

Inst Gwth Port Inc	81.14	86.32†	...	...
Special Oppor Inc	55.56	59.43	...	...

BREWIN DOLPHIN UT MGRS LTD
5 Gilespur St, London EC1A 9DE 071 236 6481

Special Sits	186.90	199.90	-0.60	0.47
Dividend	87.29	93.36†	-0.78	4.19
Inv Gth & Inc	235.10	251.40†	-0.80	2.40
UK & Gen	48.63	52.01	-0.06	1.53
Fund of Funds	64.40	73.69	+0.09	...

BRITANNIA LIFE UNIT MGRS LTD
50 Bothwell Street, Glasgow G2 6HR
041 223 6020

Balanced Growth	116.17	124.28	-1.01	1.27
Smaller Cos	109.49	117.10	-0.33	0.97
Higher Yield	48.99	52.39†	-0.21	2.43
American Gth Inc	73.34	78.44	-0.52	...
European Growth	133.38	142.66	-0.20	...
Global Bond Inc	51.96	55.91†	-0.11	4.44
Mngd Ptfolio Inc	95.31	48.49	-0.22	1.02

BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD
117 Feedwatch St, London EC3M 5AL
071 480 7286

Short Dated Gilt	70.42	71.38	-0.02	4.89

CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD
PO Box 105, Manchester M60 0AH
061 837 5060

Enviroft	168.40	170.70†	-0.60	1.21
UK Growth	178.40	189.80	-1.40	1.99
UK Income	147.90	157.40	-0.90	3.49

CANADA LIFE UNIT TST MGRS LTD
High St, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 5BA
0707 651 122

Can Gen Dist	198.50	208.80†	-1.40	1.74
do- Income Dist	120.90	128.20	-0.50	4.17
Gilt & Fxd Int	48.16	48.93	-0.09	5.86

For Cannon see Lincoln National

CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD
56 Fountain Street, Manchester M2 2AP
061 236 5685 Exec 061 236 5865 Other 061 236 5362

American & Gen	152.10	161.90	-0.20	...
European Inc	79.07	83.78	-0.13	0.52
Smaller Cos (4+I)	84.85	90.27	-0.09	1.45
Growth	464.90	497.20	-1.60	1.85
Income & Growth	451.20	480.00	-0.80	3.10
Japan & Gen	69.04	73.45	+1.33	...
Master Portfolio	113.16	(163.4)†	-21.00	1.68
Special Sits	105.40	112.20	-0.40	1.81
High Yield	1463.0	1509.0	-10.00	3.58

CAPITAL HOUSE UNIT TST MGRS
Capital House, Festival Square, Edinburgh
031 228 4477 Dealing: 0800 833 564

American Gwth Tst	38.26	40.91	-0.26	0.90
Cash Income	50.35	50.35	...	5.06
European Gwth	30.36	31.97	-0.18	0.83
Income & Gwth Inc	30.82	32.46	+0.02	3.75
Intnl Gwth	31.99	34.21	+0.05	0.75
Japan Gwth	36.47	38.31	+0.73	...
Managed Tst Inc	51.00	54.64	-0.22	0.48
Oriental Opps Inc	154.00	170.60	+1.00	0.58
Property Shares	47.66	50.97†	-0.16	1.39
Smaller Cos	33.57	35.90	-0.05	1.47
UK Growth Tst	27.76	29.68	-0.23	2.54
Royal Scottish Assurance				
Cap Hse Global Inc	76.46	81.77	-0.46	1.57
Cap Hse UK Inc	72.07	77.09	-0.60	2.22
Exempt	23.59	24.26	...	...
Formerly Brown Shipley				
European Inc	25.94	27.74	+0.09	0.38
European Acc	26.40	28.77	+0.09	0.38
Financial	166.40	177.90	+0.70	2.29
Foundation	98.46	105.30	...	2.42
German	48.93	52.33	-0.06	0.07
High Income	83.82	89.69	+0.50	5.69
Income	148.80	159.10	-0.70	3.46
Intl Growth	38.58	41.26	-0.16	0.16
Mngd Ptfolio Inc	110.60	118.20	-1.10	1.56
Mngd Ptfolio Acc	210.40	225.00	-2.00	1.96
Monthly Income	89.97	96.22†	-0.47	3.35
North American	110.40	118.00†	-0.60	0.15
Orient	149.60	160.00	+2.10	...

CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
3 Copthall Avenue, London EC2R 7BH
071 606 9708

Cazenove Portfolio	85.82	91.69†	-0.08	2.11
American Portfolio	91.74	97.92	-0.15	1.00
European Portfolio	95.91	102.2†	-0.09	0.97
Japanese Portfolio	65.42	69.69	+1.23	...
Pacific Portfolio	148.20	159.36	-0.25	0.73
UK Inc & Growth	79.35	84.93	-0.31	3.48
Utility & Bond	60.78	61.49	-0.26	5.85

CENTURY UNIT TRUSTS LTD
5 Old Bailey, London EC4M 7BA 071 332 5000

UK General Tst	69.65	74.69	-0.60	2.90
Global Tst	64.22	68.31	-0.30	0.28
Recovery Tst	73.79	78.49	-0.63	1.87

CHARTERED ASSET MGMT LTD
151 Farringdon Rd, London EC1R 3AD
071 837 7667

Intl Growth	149.06	160.70†	...	...
UK Growth	114.25	122.20	...	2.01
UK Income	119.05	129.32†	...	3.70

CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD
1 White Hart Yard, London Bridge SE1
071 407 5966

Beckmann Intl	92.47	97.87	-0.67	1.71
Beck. Bio-Tech	42.82	45.59	...	...
Accum Exhbnt Tst	154.00	163.25†	...	1.16
City Fin Assets	79.71	83.90	...	1.50
City Fin America	80.71	84.96	-1.37	...
City Fin Int	79.70	83.89	-2.03	0.47
City Fin Japan	160.13	168.56	-6.55	...
Friars Hse Cap	293.87	310.97†	...	2.10
Friars Hse Inc	214.01	227.67	...	4.62
Barkley Wrld Gwth	145.13	154.39	+2.09	0.65
Falmstr Cap Gth	148.27	156.07	...	...
do- Inc & Gth	123.18	129.66	...	1.49
Fairmount Intl	164.17	172.81	...	...
City Fin Ptfio Inc	64.69	68.82†	...	2.41

CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD
10 Eastcheap, London EC3M 1AJ 0992 412 144
Emerging Markets 60.32 64.01 -0.13 ...

CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD
Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH 0800 373 393

American Gwth	58.48	63.05	-0.52	...
Allas Mngd Gwth	38.10	40.97	-0.02	0.01
Dragon Growth	77.54	82.93	-0.02	0.35
Equity High Inc	90.63	96.16	-0.07	3.90
European Gwth	49.94	52.99	-0.13	0.61
Evergreen	31.08	33.24	+0.04	...
General Equity	90.82	96.36	-0.58	1.94
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	27.98	29.32†	-0.05	7.86
Japan Growth	46.77	50.45	+1.24	...
Pedgree Gwth	53.92	57.21	-0.26	1.83
Ped Sm Cos Inc	34.23	36.32	-0.05	0.62
Retirement Inc	28.77	30.94	-0.11	4.86
Special Sits	40.31	43.11	-0.15	1.54
UK & Overseas	51.70	54.85	-0.20	0.92

COLONIAL MUTUAL UT MGRS LTD
Chatsmore Maritime, Kent ME4 4YY
0634 898 000

Capital	68.97	73.76	-0.50	2.60
Income	66.30	70.91	-0.32	3.51

COMMERCIAL UNION FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT INTERNATIONAL LTD
Exchange Court, 3 Stafford Park, Croydon CR0 3AQ 081 686 9818
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)

Income Funds				
Equity Inc	182.07	193.69	-1.28	4.86
Fixed & Convertible	48.35	51.44†	-0.08	5.23
Monthly Inc Plus	55.32	58.85	+0.10	7.61
Preference Share	52.13	55.46†	+0.16	6.86
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	143.30	152.45†	-1.02	3.39
Managed Fund	71.44	76.00	-0.27	2.65
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	44.85	47.71	-0.11	1.72
UK & General	85.51	89.84	-0.77	2.44
UK Growth	144.83	154.07	-1.21	1.58
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	187.14	199.09	-0.30	...
Far Eastern Gwth	141.89	150.95	-0.00	0.23
Global Bond	88.26	93.78	-0.26	5.70
Japan Growth	117.61	125.12	+2.51	...
North Amer Gwth	166.53	176.10	-1.56	...
Oriental Growth	88.34	93.95	-0.56	...
Worldwide Growth	64.93	69.07	-0.22	0.34
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	92.59	92.59	+0.01	4.68
Homemaker Fund	81.22	86.40	-0.39	1.77
Quilter Fund	148.82	155.13	-1.22	1.92

CONFEDERATION FUNDS MGMT LTD
Luton Way, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2NN
0438 744 060

Growth Inc	62.26	66.23†	-0.43	2.50
High Income	36.55	38.88	-0.21	4.30
Japan	34.12	36.29	+0.04	...
Smaller Cos Inc	33.36	35.48	-0.10	2.70
Smaller Cos	34.71	36.92	-0.11	2.70
North American	33.09	35.20	-0.00	0.60
European	37.09	39.45	-0.10	0.40

CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD
1 White Hart Yd, London Bridge SE1 1NX
071 407 5966

Consistent UT	34.44	36.89	...	4.01

COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD
7 King St, Manchester M60 3AH 0800 526 398

Growth	153.00	162.80	-0.30	1.72
Income	90.27	95.40†	-0.29	4.01
European	60.25	64.10	+0.54	0.76
Recovery	145.40	153.30	-2.80	1.49

CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD
78-80 Cornhill, London EC3V 3NJ 071 283 9494
Equity Dist 871.20 886.20† ... 3.44

CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD
5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex
0277 690 370

Fellowship Tst	78.61	81.90	-0.39	1.74
Income	258.20	274.70	-2.00	4.09
Smaller Cos	153.30	163.10†	-0.30	1.25
Inv Portfolio	82.25	87.51	-0.54	1.67
High Income Port	73.11	77.78	-0.53	4.35

DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD
155 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3XS
071 418 0777

Euro Small Cos	1485.5	1513.6	...	...
Japan Small Cos	1162.3	1185.6	...	...
UK Small Cos	1860.7	1935.9†	...	...
US Small Cos	1671.2	1715.5	...	...

DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS
46 Wilson Street, London EC2A 2BL
071 377 8819

Disc Inc	196.00	206.30	...	2.73

DUNEDIN UNIT TST MGRS LTD
28, Rosebery Terrace, Edinburgh 031 315 2000

European Gwth	255.80	270.50	-0.70	1.11
Far East Inc	235.50	254.90	-2.20	0.31
Japan Growth	120.00	127.20	+2.00	...
Jap Smlr Co	497.60	524.30	+10.90	...
Nth Amer	291.00	306.00	-0.90	0.02
Shirlnd Asia Pac Mt	132.00	140.40	-1.20	0.45
UK Inc & Grth	234.80	250.50	-1.90	3.23

EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD
Bath Road, Cheltenham GL53 7LQ 0242 577 555

UK Balanced Inc	150.90	160.50	-0.90	2.15
UK High Inc Inc	168.40	179.10	-0.90	4.45
UK Pref & Fi Inc	65.06	69.00	-0.06	6.39
Envrnmntl Opps	86.31	91.82	-0.44	1.34

EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD
97 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh
0345 090 526

Accretion	127.40	131.10	-1.40	0.15
Convertibles	25.38	26.97†	...	6.12
Equity Income	145.10	154.20†	-1.50	3.24
EuroFund	45.33	47.94†	-0.09	0.83
Financial	54.32	57.72	-0.35	1.39
Growth & Inc	253.90	269.80	-3.40	2.78
High Dist	176.40	187.40	-1.20	4.00
International	401.40	426.60	-1.10	0.23
Ind Income	95.25	101.20†	-0.40	3.45
Latin American	53.31	56.64	-0.35	0.22
Pacific	92.39	98.04	-0.44	...
Preference Share	26.55	28.21†	-0.12	5.49
Tokyo	209.90	223.00	+5.30	...
UK Smaller Cos	247.90	263.40	-0.30	0.89

ELCON LTD
Central Cr, Knoll Rise, Orpington BR6 0JA
0689 78938

Elcon Trust	225.20	240.50	...	...

ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD
41 Harrington Gardens, London SW7 4JU
071 373 7262

Endurance Fd	213.60	227.20	...	0.37

EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
Walton St, Aylesbury, Bucks HP21 7QN
0296 431 480

European	78.78	82.92	-0.53	1.54
Far Eastern	323.86	340.91	-2.10	1.31
High Income	146.35	154.05	-0.60	3.97
Intl Growth	128.84	135.41	+0.23	0.88
North American	119.01	125.27	-0.86	0.97
Pelican	127.04	133.73	-0.24	2.77
Smaller Cos	78.77	82.92	-0.26	1.81
Special Sits	98.73	103.93	+0.42	7.76
Tst of Inv Trts	109.61	210.12	-0.19	1.78

EVERMORE FUND MGMT LTD
1 White Hart Yard, London Bridge SE1
071 407 5966

Smaller Cos Inc	321.76	330.38	-0.06	1.56
Smaller Cos Acc	382.88	398.83	-0.09	1.56
Recovery	59.66	62.15	+0.08	1.83

EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD
23 Cathedral Yard, Exeter EX1 1HB
0392 412 144

Balanced	122.41	130.00	-0.17	4.42
Capital Growth	88.66	95.08	-0.05	...
Fd of Inv Trts	48.13	51.34†	-0.15	0.22
High Income	50.64	54.02†	-0.06	8.20
Warrant	68.57	74.54	-0.37	...
Zero Preference	38.08	40.41†	-0.02	...

FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD
16 West Street, Brighton BN1 2RE 0273 220 707

Family Asset Tst	78.65	83.88†	...	2.25
Family Income Tst	53.08	56.46	...	5.73
Family Trust	86.65	92.19†	...	1.32
United Charities	265.00	281.90	...	3.09

FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD
130 Tonbridge Rd, Tonbridge TN9 1DZ
Dealing: 0800 414 161 Callbrec Private Clients: 0800 414 181
Broker Dealings: 0800 414 181

Cash Fund				
Cash Fund	100.00	100.00	...	4.80
Stabiliser Growth Range				
Controlled Risk UK	25.19	26.53	+0.01	3.02
-do- Europe	24.11	25.40	-0.01	4.93
-do- America	23.81	25.09	-0.06	0.43
-do- Act Japan	27.38	28.95	-0.05	0.63
Bond Funds				
Gilt & Fxd Int	15.13	32.39†	-0.02	6.05
Intl Bond	32.67	34.08†	-0.16	4.77
Income Funds				
High Income	30.27	31.85†	-0.12	4.39
Income Plus	133.60	142.10	-0.70	3.58
Amer Eq Inc	48.31	51.25†	-0.27	1.79
European Income	44.59	47.84	+0.05	2.29
Far East Inc	64.77	69.01	-0.29	2.25
Global Convertible	26.01	27.75†	-0.10	2.00
Equity Funds				
ASEAN	64.76	69.08	-0.22	...
American	227.20	241.80	-1.20	...
Amer Spec Sits	113.80	121.10	+0.70	...
Japan Smaller Cos	38.98	41.58	+0.91	...
European	163.40	173.80	-0.30	...
European Opps	60.44	64.27	+0.09



THEATRE page 34
A failed marriage, but an entertaining play: Evelyn Waugh's A Handful of Dust is back on stage

ARTS

EXHIBITIONS page 35
Eggs with everything: the fabulous Fabergé treasures go on display at the V&A



Scorsese paints his masterpiece

CINEMA: **Geoff Brown** watches a master of dark drama conduct the U-turn of his career in *The Age of Innocence*, and emerge triumphant



Daniel Day-Lewis and Michelle Pfeiffer as the lovers shackled by Victorian convention in Martin Scorsese's *The Age of Innocence*

Typecasting afflicts film directors just as much as it does performers. How many scripts thick with blood, bullets and parmesan have landed on Martin Scorsese's desk? How many were tossed straight *into the bin with a sigh?*

The media have played their part in putting the director of *Mean Streets* and *Taxi Driver* into a straitjacket. When word emerged that Scorsese was to direct a version of **The Age of Innocence**, Edith Wharton's elegant novel about New York's elite in the late 19th century, eyebrows shot up around the world. Was the man who gave us the tattooed psychopath Travis Bickle now to direct the sort of characters who dress for dinner and trot around town in horse-drawn carriages?

But there is more, much more. Judged by period detail alone, *The Age of Innocence*, a most wonderful, heartfelt film, even leaves Merchant Ivory in the shade. Not for nothing do the end credits list specialists in etiquette, table decoration and 19th-century meals: the screen almost explodes with top hats, objets d'art, letters written in exquisite calligraphy, Crown Derby china, floral bouquets, and the finest cutlery placed just so.

Yet this is far from one of those period films pickled in aspic. When Michelle Pfeiffer and Winona Ryder clutch a fan or Daniel Day-Lewis clips his cigar, they follow *the ordained social ritual with a* natural ease. All the performers in this choice, cunning cast play living, breathing, complex characters, not mere mannequins from a fashion museum.

The mass of period detail, moreover, lies at the heart of Wharton's novel, first published in 1920 when the world it described had long since vanished. Society's traditions weigh upon these characters like the albatross slung round the Ancient Mariner. In the words of Wharton's narrator (spoken with just the right glancing irony by Joanne Woodward), they lived in a "hieroglyphic world", where the surface sign is everything but the inner substance is never disclosed.

Convention dictates that Day-Lewis's young, thrusting lawyer Newland Archer must marry the well-bred, deceptively demure May Elland (Ryder). Yet it is May's cousin Ellen (Pfeiffer) who catches his eye: an enigmatic, feisty beauty trailing an unhappy European marriage.

The Age of Innocence
Odeon Leicester Square
U, 139 mins
Scorsese's spellbinding version of the novel by Edith Wharton

Mrs Doubtfire
Odeon West End 12, 120 mins
Robin Williams uproarious in drag

Decadence
MGM Haymarket
18, 108 mins
Theatrical assault on the 1980s from Steven Berkoff

Their passion grows through the daily diary of dinners, balls and social visits while the New York *beau monde* (stocked with Michael Gough, Alec McCowen and the late Alexis Smith) casts a polite, sometimes withering, gaze. But the most the agonised Day-Lewis can do even in private is kiss Pfeiffer's gloved hand, or perhaps her shoe.

Scorsese was driven to adapt the book, he says, *by its sense of poignancy and loss.* Those knives and forks arrayed in such splendour are like daggers to the heart; and the sense of violent feelings reined-in gives *The Age of Innocence*, written with Jay Cocks, much of its overwhelming power.

Visually, the film is equally alive. Look how the camera roves restlessly through room after room of these apartments, how one scene dissolves deliriously into the next: potent techniques to stave off rigor mortis, learnt partly from the sweeping, sumptuous period dramas of Visconti and Max Ophüls, or the Welles of *The Magnificent Ambersons.*

Nit-picking souls will find flaws. The attempt to convey Wharton's literary flavour by placing the text of the characters' correspondence on the screen is sometimes ill-judged. Inadequate trick shots of exterior settings clash with the lush indoor scenery. But a few bumps and kinks hardly matter. *The Age of Innocence* (the third screen version of Wharton's tale) is a major triumph, and gives both Scorsese and the costume drama genre the chance of an invigorating *stretch.*

"Mr Hillard, do you consider yourself humorous?" says the court counsel with basilisk eyes. Since Robin Williams has torn up the screen impersonating everything from a hot dog to Ronald Reagan, this is a brutal slap in the face.

Of course he *is* humorous; not for nothing is **Mrs Doubtfire** a roaring success in America. Yet he loves to pile on the shtick so much that it is hard for him to sustain a *character, even one made to measure* like Daniel Hillard; voice-over artist, divorced and disconsolate dad. Sometimes Williams attacks so hard with his comic artillery that you just want to hide under a rock.

Luckily, the plot of *Mrs Doubtfire* leads Williams away *from scattershot stunts into one* big, central, juicy jest. Denied custody of his children after divorce from the high-flying Sally Field, he disguises himself with layers of latex, a grey wig, sensible skirts and flowery dresses, and becomes the matronly Mrs Doubtfire, the family's housekeeper supreme. The voice *has a light Scottish burr;* the vocabulary veers from the quaint to the risqué, especially (deliciously) when he needles Pierce Brosnan, the new stud in Field's life.

In herself Mrs Doubtfire is thoroughly engaging: a creation just this side of the possible, the epitome of homely virtues with a large mischievous streak. For all the times we see Williams changing clothes, once the disguise is in place the person exists.

Yet even while we *admire* Williams's artistry and the character created by children's writer Anne Fine (author of *Bill's New Frock*) it is hard not to groan at the uses to which *Mrs Doubtfire* is put. Chris Columbus's film gleefully pounces on every broad situation that comes to mind, from toilet deportment to *breasts that catch fire at the stove.* Sentimentality is not neglected, either: the film positively drips with pleas for family togetherness.

Over time, the film's very length casts a pall. Columbus's crew clearly thought that if you have Williams in drag, there is no need to worry about taut editing and narrative momentum. In the short term, they are right: cinemas are *shaking with laughter as the film* stands. But my crystal ball tells me not to expect this indulgent, crude, funny piece to join *Some Like It Hot* or *Tootsie* as a comedy classic.

Decadence, now, deserves some place in the annals, a word that the film's author, director and co-star, Steven Berkoff, would doubtless *turn into a dirty pun. Bad taste is* enthroned in this extraordinary, if tiresome, version of Berkoff's stage play. Farting, vomiting, every species of lewd behaviour is unveiled on screen while the characters (chiefly four, played by two) spout torrents of highly patterned, rhyming dialogue. The point of the exercise, ostensibly, is to flay the greed and other excesses of the 1980s.

Berkoff takes charge of the nasal Steve, *philandering in Belgravia*, and the private detective hired by Steve's wife over in lower-class Cheam to track down her erring husband.

His sparring partner in both plot strands is Joan Collins, admirably preserved, legs and lipstick well to the fore, although she never points *Berkoff's lines with the force* required. Even the film's production is bizarre: *Decadence*, this nose-thumbing onslaught on Thatcher's Britain, was shot on a disused airbase outside Düsseldorf.

At first, the film — Berkoff's first as a director — has novelty on its side. Then, as the relentless, stylised barrage wears on through its 108 minutes, interest wanes and irritation waxes.

Artifice sits naturally on a theatre stage; but when the camera's close eye stares minutes on end at actors posturing in grotesque tableaux, any point to Berkoff's spectacle is hammered into oblivion.

TELEVISION

Bearding the lionised

You can imagine the consternation if all this had come out when Hammer Films was still in full operational swing. "Yes! Rasputin! Rasputin, the *mad monk*. Make a note, Watkins. I see it now, those mesmerising murderous coal-black eyes, that terribly good Boney M record: 'Rah, Rah Ras-pu-teen, lover of the Russian queen', playing over the titles. Get on with this immediately: I want *lots* of gorgeous women playing all the aristocrats and tsarinas trapped in the thick black mud of the mad monk's evil charisma."

"But Rasputin wasn't a monk, sir."

"He wasn't?"

"And he wasn't mad, and he almost certainly had no carnal knowledge of the tsarina. He was just, er, a dipsomaniac opportunist with a very vigorous sex drive."

"Who says so?"

"**Timewatch**. BBC2. Last night."

"Really? That's terrible."

"I'm sorry."

"I mean to say, if you can't trust Boney M, *who can* you trust?"

> 'He was a dipsomaniac with a very vigorous sex drive'

Although *sometimes* they promise a rather larger degree of revisionist success than they actually deliver, television history programmes clearly take a pride in overturning popular myth. Spoilsports, we call them in the biz. The delight of last night's programme, however, written and produced by Laurence Rees, was that the figure of Rasputin that emerged had rather more promising dramatic possibilities than even the rah-rah fanatic of Boney M's inspired imaginings.

This Rasputin, a Siberian holy peasant with charismatic healing powers, arrives in St Petersburg in the early 1900s, just when charismatic holy peasants are the height of salon fashion. Photographs are taken of classy women in white frocks sitting around tables with the black, surprised and charred-looking Rasputin in their midst, while a waiter stands emotionless behind.



Spot the mad monk — Rasputin taking tea with a group of high-born ladies in 1914

He is recommended to the Romanovs as healer to the haemophiliac tsarevich, and *thus commences a Tartuffe*-like double life — Holy Joe by day (by royal appointment), dissolute boozer and whore-monger by night. For the royals, he is also considered a bridge to the mass of the Russian people, whose lives are a mystery. When one of the princesses visited a shop, we are told, she was confused when the shopkeeper gave her some money back, in change.

The strength of last night's programme was its discreet legwork. Cameras travelled to the remote Siberian village of Rasputin's birth (where no Western historian had been before, they said), and looked him up in the parish register (which nobody had done before, *amazingly*). Along with the historians interviewed were peasants who remembered Rasputin's wife; St Petersburg neighbours; and childhood playmates of the tsarevich. *Timewatch* showed us a modern female practitioner of charismatic healing; took us to the kind of bath-house Rasputin patronised; told us his phone number (St Petersburg 64646); and even treated us *to some sizzling* gypsy dancing at a St Petersburg hotel.

Meanwhile, unpublished diaries and photos gave us first-hand accounts of his trips home to Siberia — evidently bonking his female disciples on the train — and everyone said how generous he was.

The only things to remain unclear were his religious credentials (*did he have any?*), his fiscal arrangements (was he paid?), and the nature of his fatal interest in politics and military strategy (played down).

But his animal magnetism was clearly undeniable. Once combined with booze, women, and a convenient religious conviction that God's love increases the more you bonk and repent, the secret of those mad, swimmy, unfocused eyes is instantly cleared up.

LYNNE TRUSS

Bard at the top

ALAN Ayckbourn, for so long *the playwright most* performed by Britain's amateur theatre companies, is in danger of losing his crown. Figures just released by the Little Theatre Guild of Great Britain show a newcomer creeping up: one W"'":m Shakespeare. *The Bard notched up 27* amateur productions in the 1992-93 season, the same number as Ayckbourn, with Neil Simon and John Godber in third and fourth positions.

More surprisingly, eight amateur companies tackled *Ibsen last year. Dennis Potter,* Steven Berkoff and Vaclav Havel were also seen on the amateur stage.

● AN appropriate venue has been announced for the memorial service for Sam Wanamaker. The life and achievements of the actor/director will be celebrated on March 2 in Southwark Cathedral, just down the road from the site on which Wanamaker's most-cherished project — the reconstruction of Shakespeare's *Globe — is taking shape.* Details from the Globe project centre (071-620 0202).

Fair takings

CONTEMPORARY art might be savaged in the London *Evening Standard* and *The Spectator*, but the public's appetite for the inscrutable stuff seems to be growing. That is the implication of the attendance figures at last week's ART 94 fair. The London Contemporary Art Fair attracted 12 per cent more visitors than last year, drawing more than 23,000 people. Among the bigger cheques written out were £15,000 paid for John Bellany's *Old Man and the Sea* and £12,500 for Ken Kiff's *Full Fathom Five.*

● VISCOUNT Tonypandy, the former Speaker of the House of Commons, will celebrate his 85th birthday in Westminster Abbey on Tuesday. As president of the National Childrens Home, he will attend a performance of Handel's *Messiah* that launches a new fund-raising initiative called Music in Action for Children. The formidable Jamaican bass, Willard White, leads the soloists (booking details 071-379 4444).

ARTS BRIEFING

Sundance kids

AUDIENCES at Robert Redford's Sundance Film Festival, currently happening on the great man's Utah ranch, are certainly getting to know the name of Channel 4. No fewer than five films backed by the British television station are being shown, and one — Mike Newell's *Four Weddings and a Funeral* — opened the event.

ROCK: A stunning British debut by a new voice and face

That's cooking, good-looking

Sheryl Crow
Borderline, WI

ON THE release last year of Sheryl Crow's debut album *Tuesday Night Music Club* she set about creating some space for herself in a crowded field. So polished was the mélange of rock, R&B and other influences that those with whom she was immediately compared, such as *Rickie Lee Jones and Bonnie Raitt,* had no choice but to shift over.

The Missouri native had seemingly sprung from nowhere, but had done time as a highly prized session singer, time *obviously* well-spent. This British debut, postponed from a couple of months ago, was therefore eagerly awaited.

It was to be a stunningly assured performance, shot through with contagious musicality, and soon it was clear that Crow has risen to an even greater challenge: not simply to be accepted as a new performer in a highly populated area, *but to do it* as an extremely attractive woman. Could this male-dominated world accept that not every female has to be a rock chick or a sex kitten?

Every pair of male eyes was superglued to Crow throughout, but each would accept that her ability transcends her looks. One of the many album highlights performed by this excellent five-piece band was the current single "What I Can Do For You", dedicated, *without rancour*, by Crow to the "sexual harassers in the audience" and on which she takes the part of the leering male whose unwanted attentions contain a familiar hint of threat. "I have so much to offer, if *you just be nice/If you do what I say, don't make me say it twice.*"

Live, the similarities with Raitt's educated R&B style were heightened by Crow's wonderfully fluid and versatile vocals. The show, like the album, bobbed and weaved admirably from the funky "Solidify" through the singalong "The Na-Na Song", with its live addendum of the Beatles's "I Got A Feeling", to the Fab Four-ish "Run Baby Run", which opens the record and pins the listener to the speakers with its first line: "She was born in November 1963, the day Aldous Huxley died".

Crow also has the confidence, when faced with an audience, to lower her defences: "Strong Enough" addressed her search for a lover, "No One Said It Would Be Easy" her love for her parents. Crow comes over like one of the boys in the band, but she can be a tenderheart as well as a siren.

PAUL SEXTON



TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

LONDON

CLARKE PETERS: The mastermind behind the hit musical *Five Guys Named Moe* presents a one-man tribute to Nat King Cole, accompanied by Cole's own early band Adrian Reid, Eddie Herbert and Donovan Carpenter.
Green Room, Cafe Royal, Regent Street, W1 (071-437 9090). Tonight, 9pm, dinner from 7pm. Until Feb 12

LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: André Previn, a master interpreter of Brahms's music, conducts the composer's Symphony No 4 this evening. The programme also includes Haydn's Symphony No 96 and the Cello Concerto in C with soloist Wendy Warner
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (071-638 8891). Tonight, 7.30pm. ◪

THE SKRIKER: Opening night for Caryl Churchill's latest: an ancient shape-shifter (Kathryn Hunter) bursts out of the Underworld and pursues two young girls. Strange, strong stuff.
National (Cottesloe), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Tonight. ◪

ELSEWHERE

CHELTENHAM: Guilty murderess or beautiful innocent? Daphne du Maurier's gripping **My Cousin Rachel**, set in Cornwall of course.
Everyman, Regent Street (0242 572573). Tonight, 7.45pm; mats Feb 5, 12 and 17 at 2pm. Until Feb 19. ◪

EXETER: Regional premiere for Ariel Dorfman's gripping drama on the struggle between revenge and forgiveness, **Death and the Maiden**. Fiona Fullerton plays the torture victim who believes she has identified her torturer.
Northcott Theatre, Stocker Road (0392 54853). Tonight, 7.30pm. Mon-Fri, 7.30pm, Sat, 8pm. Until Feb 19.

MANCHESTER: **The London International Mime Festival** moves north bringing the Compagnie Jerome Deschamps from Paris with *Les Pieds dans l'Eau*, their comic show concerning suburban hazards.
Royal Northern College of Music, Oxford Road (061-273 4504). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm. ◪

NOTTINGHAM: Tony Slattery plays one of a quartet of hapless men wrecked on Derwentwater during a disastrous character-building weekend. Tim Firth's **Neville's Island** successfully premiered last year at Scarborough.
Playhouse, Wellington Circus (0602-419419). Previews tonight and tomorrow, 7.30pm. Opens Jan 28; then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Feb 12, 2.30pm. Until February 19. ◪

LONDON GALLERIES

Barbican: All Human Life: Hulton Deutsch Collection (071-638 4141) ... **British Museum**: Deities and Devotions: Hindu art; Demon of Painting: Kawanabe Kyosai (071-636 1555) ... **Festival Hall**: Photographs of Sebastião Salgado (071-928 3002) ... **National Portrait Gallery**: Holbein and the Court of Henry VIII; The Portrait Now (071-306 0055) ... **National Gallery**: Claude, the Poetic Landscape; David's portrait of the Viscomtesse Vilain XIIII and her Daughter (071-839 3321) ... **Royal Academy of Arts**: Art of the Ancient World; The Unknown Modigliani (071-439 7438) ... **Royal College of Art**: John Minton (071-584 5020) ... **Serpentine**: Wall to Wall (071-402 6075) ... **Tate**: Writing on the Wall: women artists (071-887 8008) ... **Victoria & Albert Museum**: Fabergé, Imperial Jeweller (071-938 8500)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only
◪ Some seats available
□ Seats at all prices

◪ **AN ABSOLUTE TURKEY**: Felicity Kendal plays a harassed wife and Griff Rhys Jones a frantic bachelor, in Peter Hall's most enjoyable production of Feydeau's *Le Dindon*
Globe, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5065). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

◪ **APRIL IN PARIS**: John Godber's thin play, unless substantially revised since its Hull premiere. At least the cast has quality: Gary Olsen and Maria Friedman as innocents abroad.
Ambassadors, West Street, WC2 (071-836 6111). Previewing, 8 pm. Opens Feb 1, 7pm.

◪ **CAROUSEL**: Tuneful and cleverly set Rodgers and Hammerstein musical extravaganza.
Shaftesbury, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-379 5399). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Wed, Sat, 2.30pm. ◪

□ **THE CUT**: Gripping whodunit, set in a coal mine. Who killed who and for what?
Bush, Shepherd's Bush Green, W12 (081-743 3388). Mon-Sat, 8pm.

□ **JANE EYRE**: Alexandra Mathie and Tim Pigott-Smith do their best in Fay Weldon's puzzling version of the well-known melodrama.
Playhouse, Northumberland Ave, WC2 (071-839 4401). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Thurs and Sat 3pm ◪

□ **GORMENGHAST**: Another welcome return for the David Glass Ensemble and their strikingly staged version of the Mervyn Peake novel.
Lyric, King Street, Hammersmith, W6 (081-741 2311). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm.

◪ **KIT AND THE WIDOW: JANUARY SALE**: Suave and stinging, the musical satirists pass comment on the social scene with their familiar skill.
Vaudeville, Strand, WC2 (071-836 9987). Tue-Fri, 7.30pm; Sat 6pm and 8.30pm; Sun 7.30pm

◪ **ME AND MAMIE O'ROURKE**: French and Saunders in wretchedly lightweight US play about lesbian fantasies
Strand, Aldwych, WC2 (071-930 8800). Mon-Thurs 8pm; Fri, Sat 6pm and 8.45pm

◪ **MEDEA**: Diana Rigg in Euripides's tragedy of a woman's revenge, directed by Jonathan Kent
Wyndham's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-867 1116). Mon-Fri, 8pm; Sat, 8.30pm, mat Sat, 5.30pm.

◪ **OLEANNA**: Denis Lawson and Michelle Fairley have taken over the leads in Mamet's tale of power, politics and punishment at an American university.
Duke of York's, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-836 5122). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 4pm ◪

◪ **PIAF**: Elaine Paige in powerful voice as the Parisian sparrow. The play itself is rather less than marvellous.
Piccadilly, Denman Street, W1 (071-867 1118). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed (Lorraine Brunning) and Sat 3pm

□ **RELATIVE VALUES**: Susan Hampshire, Alison Fiske and Sarah Brightman head a strong cast in Coward's snobbish but clever comedy. Tim Luscombe directs.
Savoy, Strand, WC2 (071-836 8888). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm. ◪

□ **SCHIPPEL, THE PLUMBER**: Revival of Jeremy Sams' joyous production of Sternheim: a snobbish vocal quartet is obliged to cross class barriers to recruit a vital tenor. James Saxon leads the almost unchanged cast. Recommended.
Greenwich, Crooms Hill, SE10 (081-858 7755). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Sat, 2pm. Until Feb 26. ◪

□ **SEPTEMBER TIDE**: Daphne du Maurier's drama of inappropriate passion arrives in the West End again (last time 1948), from the King's Head. Susannah York plays the decent woman in love with her son-in-law (Michael Praed).
Comedy, Panton St, SW1 (071-867 1045). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed 3pm and Sat 4pm.

□ **THE THREE MUSKETEERS**: (LMF) From the boys who brought *Thunderbirds F.A.B.* to the West End; three actors play a cast of hundreds in a sadly too ordinary version of this much-loved spoof.
Riverside Studios, Crisp Road, Hammersmith, W6 (081-748 3354). Mon-Sat, 8pm. ◪ Until Feb 19.

LONG RUNNERS

◪ **Blood Brothers**: Phoenix (071-867 1044) ... □ **Buddy**: Victoria Palace (071-834 1317) ... □ **Cats**: New London (071-405 0072) ... ◪ **Crazy for You**: Prince Edward (071-734 8951) ... □ **Don't Dress for Dinner**: Duchess (071-494 5070) ... □ **Five Guys Named Moe**: Lyric (071-494 5045) ... ■ **Grease**: Dominion (071-580 8845) ... ◪ **Hot Stuff**: Cambridge (071-494 5040) ... ◪ **Les Misérables**: Palace (071-434 0909) ... ◪ **Miss Saigon**: Theatre Royal, Drury Lane (071-494 5400) ... □ **The Mousetrap**: St Martin's (071-836 1443) ... ■ **The Phantom of the Opera**: Her Majesty's (071-494 5400) ... ◪ **Starlight Express**: Apollo Victoria (071-828 8665) ... ◪ **Sunset Boulevard**: Adelphi Theatre (071-344 0055) ... □ **Travels With My Aunt**: Whitehall (071-867 1119) ... □ **The Woman in Black**: Fortune (071-836 2238)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

BHAJI ON THE BEACH (15): Laboured, well-meaning ethnic comedy about Asian women on a day trip to Blackpool. Director, Gurinder Chadha.
MGM Tottenham Court Road (071-636 6148) **Screen/Baker Street** (071-935 2772)

CALENDAR: Stimulating puzzle picture from Atom Egoyan, cast as a photographer taking photos in Armenia.
ICA (071-930 3647)

HEAVEN AND EARTH (15): A Vietnam peasant girl's war experiences, clumsily translated by Oliver Stone. With Hiep Thi Le and Tommy Lee Jones.
MGMs: Baker Street (071-935 9772) **Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Shaftesbury Avenue** (071-836 6279) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3303) **Warner** (071-439 4343)

THE HOUR OF THE PIG (15): Medieval romp with serious twinges, ideal for BBC2. With Colin Firth, Nicol Williamson, director, Leslie Megahey.
MGMs: Chelsea (071-352 5096) **Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426-914 666) **Swiss Cottage** (071-586 3057) **Warner** ◪ (071-439 4343)

MANHATTAN MURDER MYSTERY (PG): Woody Allen and Diane Keaton turn amateur sleuths. Benign, frivolous comedy with Alan Alda and Anjelica Huston
Barbican ◪ (071-638 8891) **Camden Plaza** (071-485 2443) **Gate** ◪ (071-727 4043) **MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Odeons: Haymarket** (0426-915 353) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **Screen/Green** (071-226 3520)

◆ **TOMBSTONE** (15): Unremarkable return to the OK Corral, with Kurt Russell (Wyatt Earp) and Val Kilmer (Doc Holliday). George P. Cosmatos directs.
MGMs: Chelsea (071-352 5096) **Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Marble Arch** (0426-914 501) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **West End** (0426-915 574) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (071-792 3332)

CURRENT

◆ **ADDAMS FAMILY VALUES** (PG): A new baby causes chaos in America's most macabre household. Overblown sequel, with good stretches. With Raul Julia and Anjelica Huston; director, Barry Sonnenfeld.
Empire (0800 888911) **MGM Trocadero** ◪ (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (071-792 3332)

◆ **ANOTHER STAKEOUT** (PG): Return visit of Richard Dreyfuss and Emilio Estevez's bantering cops: comedy and action for the easily pleased. Director, John Badham.
Odeons: Kensington (0426 914666) **Leicester Square** (0426 915683)

◆ **CARLITO'S WAY** (18): Can Al Pacino's gangster go straight? Lively ethnic-flavoured drama from Brian De Palma, with Sean Penn
Empire (0800 888911) **MGMs Fulham Road** ◪ (071-370 2636) **Trocadero** ◪ (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (071-792 3332)

CENTURY (15): Stephen Poliakoff's muddled dissection of science and morality in turn-of-the-century London. With Clive Owen, Charles Dance and Miranda Richardson.
MGM Haymarket (071-839 1527)

◆ **FRIENDS** (15): Female friendships in turbulent Johannesburg. Worthy, flawed drama from writer-director Elaine Proctor; with Kerry Fox.
Metro (071-437 0757)

◆ **MALICE** (15): Alec Baldwin's hot-shot doctor shatters Nicole Kidman and Bill Pullman's domestic bliss. Shallow, serpentine and stupefying thriller; director, Harold Becker.
MGMs: Chelsea (071-352 5096) **Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426-914 666) **Swiss Cottage** (071-586 3057) **West End** (0426-915 574) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (071-792 3332)

◆ **A PERFECT WORLD** (15): Kevin Costner's criminal on the run with a kidnapped child, and Clint Eastwood in pursuit. Thoughtful if overstretched drama; Eastwood also directs.
MGMs: Baker Street (071-935 9772) **Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **Trocadero** ◪ (071-434 0031) **Notting Hill Coronet** ◪ (071-727 6705) **Warner** ◪ (071-437 4343) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (071-792 3332)

◆ **THE PIANO** (15): Jane Campion's magnificent tale of repression and desire in mid-19th century New Zealand. With Holly Hunter, Sam Neill, Harvey Keitel.
MGMs: Fulham Road (071-370 2636) **Shaftesbury Avenue** (071-836 6279) **Plaza** (0800 888997) **Screen/Baker Street** (071-935 2772) **Warner** ◪ (071-437 4343) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (071-792 3332)

PROVIDENCE (15): Alain Resnais's elegant enigma of 1977, with John Gielgud as the dying writer weaving his family (Dirk Bogarde and others) into his fiction. **Everyman** ◪ (071-435 1525) **MGM Swiss Centre** (071-439 4470)

STRANGER THAN PARADISE (15): Laconic tale of the American dream. Jim Jarmusch's first feature, still bracing today. With John Lurie, Eszter Balint.
Renoir (071-837 8402)

THEATRE: Evelyn Waugh's marital problems revisited and, below, anatomical inspirations

Jaw-jaw out of Waugh-Waugh

DONALD COOPER



Sublime comedy related with marvellous economy of style in Mike Alfreds's adaptation of Evelyn Waugh

A Handful of Dust
Palace, Watford

EVELYN Waugh drew on the failure of his first marriage for the misadventure that sets off the sequence of calamities in this, his third novel. The ferocity of his anger comes across in the unmaternal self-absorption of Lady Brenda Last, his hero's wife, when news of a death is brought to her. She jumps to the conclusion that her lover has been killed. When she learns that it is her little son, the words "Thank God" escape from her.

Waugh must have enjoyed a flush of satisfaction when he concocted this incident. Elsewhere in the novel he treats Brenda more gently, at times even with sympathy, as if he can allow himself that, having landed his deadly blow.

The ambivalence of his treatment results in a rather wobbly focus to the book. There are sublimely comic scenes, vividly awful when the idiocies of the divorce laws are shown up (the dancer employed to provide evidence of adultery insists on bringing her frightful daughter to the Brighton Hotel) and these scenes are related with marvellous economy of style. Conversations happening at different places or at different times are seamlessly brought together so that what emerges appears to be a group portrait of a full set of fast-living smart folk.

Yet Waugh sees all but one of his characters from the outside, going in to the unexpressed feelings only of Tony Last, the good-hearted, slow-witted husband besotted with his Victorian Gothic country house.

When Mike Alfreds adapted the novel ten years ago for his company Shared Experience, he originated a method of combining narrative with dialogue. His revival of the production for Cambridge Theatre Company, in association with the Palace, Watford, gives a wider audience the chance to see how successfully the method conveys the quality of a work so reliant on irony and subtle juxtaposition.

Paul Dart's set is bare except for a line of grey panels across the back. These begin to come apart in the second half, though haphazardly, leaving us uncertain if the effect is deliberate, or due to accidental loosening of the nails. The ten grey chairs drawn up at one side are moved about by the cast (men in grey suits, women in grey dresses), and become all the beds, sofas and nightclub seating that the story requires.

"She rubbed against his cheek in the way she had," says Annabelle Apsion's Brenda, narrating after a line or two of dialogue addressed to her husband — later repeating the action and the description beside Mark Alken's Beaver, the worthless sponger she runs off with. Throughout the play the cast are stepping in and out of their roles. Alfreds's method would not work with a solemn novel, but is the best possible way of staging Waugh's tart comedy.

Apsion's frail beauty and air of slightly disengaged attention catch the driven quality of the role. Waugh doesn't trouble to explore her character, preferring to see her as moved by idle whim. Apsion gives us this, but also, in voice and posture, the sorrow and the pluck. Tim Dutton's Tony looks the part of a dry stick, almost always out of his depth and never more so than when Pamela Moiseiwitsch's Princess Akbar, delightfully bizarre, tries to win him with confidences about her curious womb.

The cast is excellent. Jason Watkins dies twice, first as the blithely babbling boy John, and then as the hopeless Dr Messinger, plunging upside-down over a Brazilian waterfall. The evening is a tadge long but it is full of enjoyment.

JEREMY KINGSTON

Gone out on a limb

Body Politic
Cockpit

IT IS not an exam question most of us would care to answer: "choose a part of the body, and from there dissect the body politic, developing a prognosis as to the nation's health". But that is what the Soho Theatre Company asked six members of its writers' workshop to tackle, with results that, I have to say, seldom rise far above pass level.

It's easy to imagine the agonies over the Cockpit's word-processors. Eyelids, navels, livers, armpits? Too tricky. The bum? Appropriate enough, given the characters of some of our aspiring statesmen, but too vulgar. The male member and its relevance to the self-destruction of the Tory Party? Too obvious. No, what the six ended up choosing for their playlets were hand, skin, womb, eyes and teeth, brain and, most eccentrically of all but also most effectively, DNA.

The political implications of these organs are sometimes pretty glancing. Ed O'Regan's hand story, for instance, turns out to involve a boxer who seeks personal absolution from a fortune teller after killing an opponent with an uppercut. And Neil Biswas's contribution, about an Asiatic girl mourning her lost father while their friends talk of returning to Calcutta, has little clear to say about the body politic, skin or anything else. As for animus against the present government, that is to be found only in Sara Clifford's tooth-and-eye satire, in which an elderly couple swap their one pair of dentures and single pair of specs as the gas and electricity are cut off and even the cat-excrement sandwiches run out.

If there is a common, or frequent, enemy it is science and scientists. A mother sits beside the pregnant daughter who is being kept artificially alive in Sheila Goff's womb play — as it turns out, a meditation on abortion — and a wife does the same for a husband who emerges from his coma to ask her for release in John Constable's brain fantasy. But Paul Goetzee's tale of the wimpish researcher who clones himself from a snippet of his toenail is in every respect the pick of the bunch.

It would be unjust to run down the others, who write competent dialogue and, after all, have only 15-odd minutes in which to make an impact. But Goetzee's play displays genuine wit and originality of mind. What starts as Donald One's narcissistic dream, the creation of a man so like himself the slightest disagreement is impossible, ends up as a cautionary nightmare, with Donald Two voicing the self-accusations he has kept repressed and finally strangling him with strands of his own double-helix. This is Frankenstein relocated in the age of genetic engineering: and funny, too.

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BEFORE setting off on their pilgrimage to Rome next week to celebrate the 400th anniversary of Palestrina, the Tallis Scholars — eight of them, anyway — exercised their voices in a little gentle Josquin Desprez. Nothing of the political turmoil of the times could ever be heard in the music he wrote. Yet the *Missa ad fugam* which the Tallis Scholars performed on Tuesday is an austere work, sombre, dark-hued, and as far removed from *fuga* in terms of *flight* as could be imagined. For *fuga* here, read canon: the tenor follows the soprano's lead throughout, while alto and bass go their own, marginally freer ways.

While the ear delights in the consummate craft of Josquin's counterpoint, voices rise, fall, merge and part again in a setting of the words of the Mass which is expressive of each passing soul state: an outward and audible sign of its inner meaning.

In the firm, brightly focused voices of the Tallis Scholars under the discriminating direction of Peter Phillips, a sudden clarity would shine out as the Credo progresses to affirm the God of Gods and Light of Light. Resurrection would achieve its own drama through a lifting of register: shorter, livelier notes become the diversity of the glory of heaven and earth.

The sobriety of Josquin gave way after the interval to the subtly sensuous Magnificat settings and motet "Vae, vae Babylon" by Nicholas Gombert. In the *Magnificat quarti toni*, four voices grow imperceptibly to six in an increasingly rich flow of interlocking parts. And in the *Third-tone Magnificat*, Gombert's most elaborate setting, the voices weave in, strand upon strand, until a reverberating tapestry of sound is created for the magnificent eight-part final verse. The Vatican authorities have a treat in store.

HILARY FINCH

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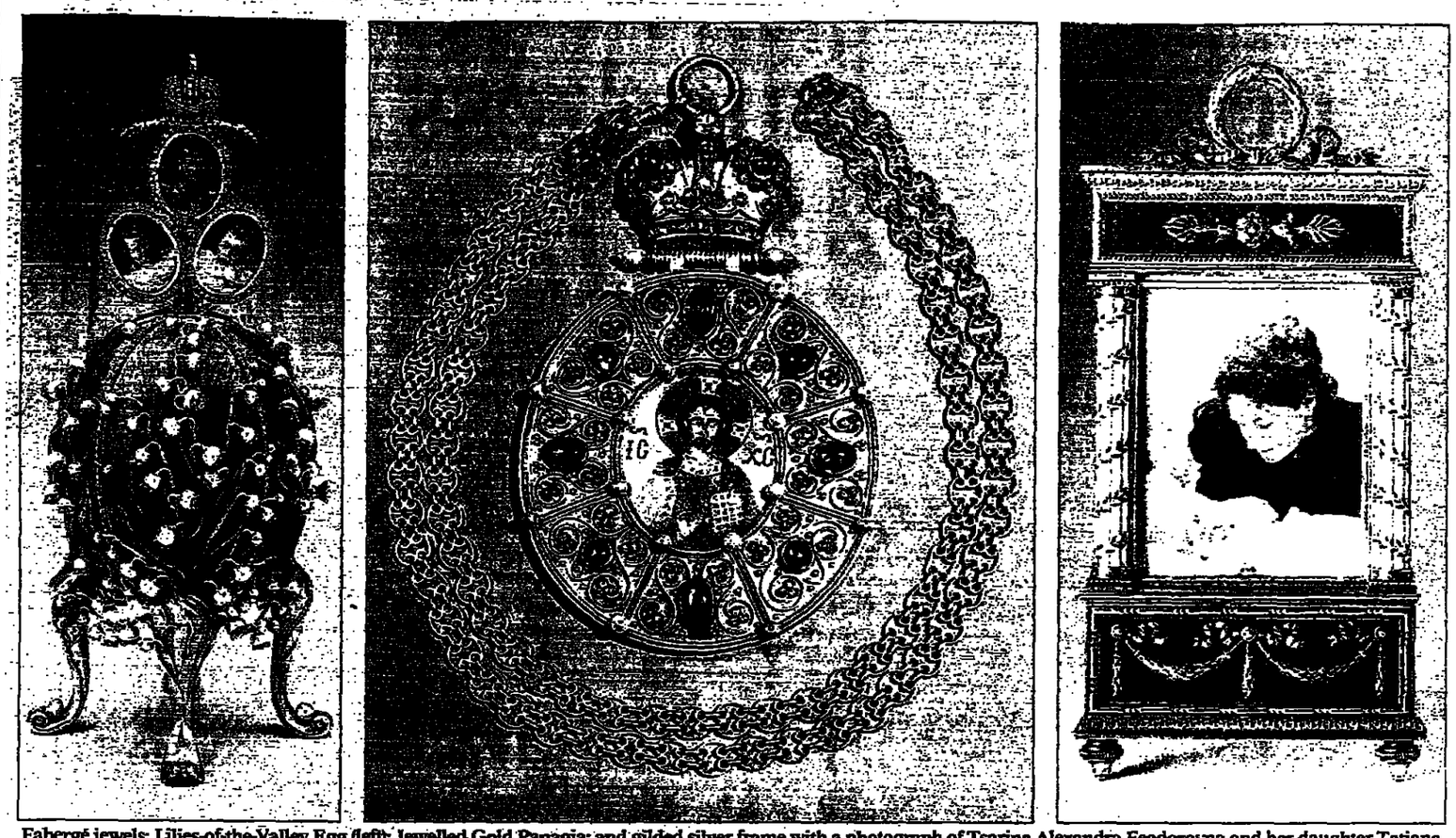
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EXHIBITION: **John Russell Taylor** on the treasures of the house of Fabergé, designers to royalty



Fabergé jewels: Lilies-of-the-Valley Egg (left); Jewelled Gold Panagia; and gilded silver frame with a photograph of Tsarina Alexandra Feodorovna and her daughter Tatiana

Jeweller who made the golden egg

Brand names are always a bit of a problem in the arts. Often the brand name is the most instantly recognisable thing about a major producer of, say, jewellery. But who is the artist behind it? Who creates the house style? When one comes to Fabergé, now being lavishly celebrated at the Victoria and Albert Museum — for no particular reason, except that it is always nice to have so many self-evident "treasures" around at one time in one exhibition — the problem is quite acute.

As compared with such contemporaries as Tiffany and Lalique, who did after all start designing and making their own product, and only later on took on armies of assistants and became a factory operation, Fabergé the man, the individual artist, remains remarkably shadowy.

What everybody knows about is the close relationship between Fabergé and the Russian royal family from around 1870 right up to the Russian Revolution. The sad, romantic, melodramatic events which accompanied the last years of the tsars add tremendously to the interest of anything connected with them. And in the case of such huge expenditure on such objects of useless luxury, the whole "decline and fall" story seems to be set out vividly before us.

One minute the tsars were commissioning these absurdly extravagant Easter eggs in gold and precious stones for one another, while millions starved and the next... Apart from whatever aesthetic gratification these curious objects may afford, there is undoubtedly a frisson of pleasurable horror in contemplating such fiddlings while Rome burnt.

But what sort of a man was behind these flagrant examples of conspicuous consumption? That has always been, and still remains, very difficult to find out. Peter Carl Fabergé, *the* Fabergé, was born in St Petersburg in 1846, child of an old Huguenot family long resident in eastern Germany and then western Russia. His father was a successful goldsmith, and he naturally went into the family business. Before doing so, during his teens, he had gone to school in Dresden and travelled extensively while training, thus gaining some useful knowledge of life and tastes outside Russia before going back to the paternal shop when he was 21. He took charge of the business in 1872.

All this time he was registered as and worked as a merchant rather than a craftsman, though goldsmithing was certainly part of his training. He must have been personable enough, or a good enough salesman, to make his way in the richest circles even before he was his own master. He had a great success in the Moscow Pan-Russian Industrial Exhibition of 1882, winning a gold medal and the Order of St Stanislas ribbon to wear it on, and by 1885 he had masterminded the first documented imperial Easter egg, made for Alexander III, and had become supplier by special appointment to the imperial court in St Petersburg.

From then on, it seems to have been success all the way — at least, until history overtook him. There were more and more imperial Easter eggs and what were called *objets de fantaisie*, which might have been designed to justify the squeal of Marilyn Monroe in *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes*: "Ooh, it's little, but it's expensive!" Hence all these gold-festooned picture frames; these intricately wrought cigarette boxes in assorted precious metals; these tiny animals carved out of chunks of precious or semi-precious stones; these minute crystalline bud-vases; these valuable mounts for considerably less valuable pieces of glass and ceramic.

But if these are regarded as frivolous, there is — arguably — a more serious side revealed in this exhibition of objects, more than half of which come from Russian collections. Ceremonial helmets for the imperial family and their friends. Military orders. Pieces of heavy and rather glum liturgical plate for the Russian Orthodox Church. And when the First World War came, such slightly odd responses as a special Red Cross egg.

In 1918, unsurprisingly, the Fabergé shop closed and Peter Carl was whisked out of Russia with the help of the British Embassy (the British royal family had also invested heavily in his confections) to spend his last two years in retirement in Switzerland.

The first thing to do, faced with a mass of Fabergé workmanship, is to try to rid ourselves of preconceptions. Never mind about the circumstances in which it was produced. The important thing is that it is there. Never mind about the amounts of gold and diamonds and all that. Does it give one now a valid aesthetic experience? Easy to say, more difficult to put into practice. For one thing, we are not talking of idiosyncratic personal art, and there really is no house style. Or rather, there are half a dozen. The eggs and such are mostly neo-rococo, and, if one can ignore the glitter, seldom transcend kitsch.

More interesting from the design point of view are the pieces (rather thin on the ground in this selection) which seem to be affected by the then current revival of interest in Russian folklore and folk art. The Monumental Bogatyr Kovsh from the turn of the century has a certain home-grown quality along with its Art Nouveau affiliations which marks it out. The animals and bud-vases are delightful, but a very close pastiche of Chinese originals. Some of the later cigarette cases, hovering between Art Nouveau and Deco, would actually be desirable whatever they were made of.

But finally, the aesthetics of Fabergé's work can be even more of a problem than its political implications. No doubt an audience hot for "treasures" does not care, but an audience eager for art may have a few qualms before it dares to wallow.

● *Fabergé: Imperial Jeweller is at the Victoria and Albert Museum, Cromwell Road, SW7 (071-938 8500) Mon 12 noon-5.50pm, Tues-Sun 10am-5.50 pm, until April 10. Admission £4.75, concessions £3.50. Advance bookings on 071-497 9977 (booking fee). Sponsored by Elida Gibbs (Parfums Fabergé)*

Stuck in his old rituals

FESTIVAL: John Tavener's music may bear witness to a powerful spirituality, but it leaves **Stephen Pettitt** unmoved

If you do not share the sort of spirituality John Tavener has, it is very difficult to enter his world, with its invocations of Orthodox ritual, its imitations and quotations of ancient musics, and its stock-in-trade devices such as minor-major chord changes, palindromic melodic movement and parallel chords.

Tavener, the sincerest of men, says that he is trying not to express himself; an icon painter has no need to come up with fresh ideas. The collage-like pieces of the Sixties and Seventies, works such as *In Alium*, composed for the Proms in 1968 and heard in the BBC's "Ikons" festival's closing concert (given by the BBC Symphony Orchestra, the BBC Singers, the sopranos Eileen Hulse and Patricia Rozario, under Richard Hickox's devout direction in Westminster Cathedral on Monday), have less outward austerity about them than the later, Orthodox works. But taped sounds of children uttering the Lord's Prayer in four languages, crashing organ chords, the word "Spem", sung in close canon by pre-recorded, multi-tracked soprano, do not add up to much.

So with *Ultimos Ritos*, completed in 1974, in which the Crucifixus from Bach's B minor Mass slowly takes over the work. That moment is indeed a magical one. After sitting for so long through Tavener's pained, static ritual, full of grand gestures and repetition, anything that has motion is bliss. If only we had gone on to the "Et resurrexit", but such a physical expression of joy is not what Tavener is about. This is high, symbolic, religious ritual.

The previous day's concerts in the Barbican proved just as testing for doubting Thomases. The *Akhmatova Requiem* of 1979-80, in which the excellent soloists were Penelope Walmsley-Clark and Stephen Richardson, is yet another vast work, its texts, born of the poet Anna Akhmatova's own experience of Stalinist persecution, haunting and horrifying. But again Tavener's bleak response is impersonal, ritualistic.

This concert, again given by the BBCSO but this time under Gennady Rozhdestvenksy's baton, had begun with *The Protecting Veil*, Tavener's most popular piece, and one that does strike home where others do not. Cellist Steven Isserlis's rapt concentration, his uncanny ability to sustain long, slow lines and gorgeous sound has had much to do with its success. So does the fact that it is possible to hear it as an abstraction rather than as a religious ritual.

In an afternoon concert, two works for string quartet — *The Hidden Treasure* (1989) and *The Last Sleep of the Virgin* (1991) — benefited equally from the Chilingirian Quartet's wholehearted integrity, as did the London premiere of the dark, spare, but relatively terse *Akhmatova Songs* (1993) given by Patricia Rozario and Isserlis. Even so, the formulaic design and lack of rhythmic interest in this music soon told above its attempts to lure us into a transcendent spirituality.



The composer John Tavener: his Orthodox beliefs have led him to produce a series of musical icons

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FESTIVAL HALL CONCERTS: Waltzes, polkas and a Requiem

At home in Vienna

Austrian-born **Franz Welser-Möst** has an instinctive grasp of the Viennese idiom, and he has groomed the **London Philharmonic**, with whom he has already recorded some of this music, to perfection in the style. In this concert, the *Gypsy Baron* overture of Johann Strauss II had it all: the vertiginous gathering of momentum into the waltz, the finely gauged accelerating and slackening of tempo in its phrases, the slightly heady rhythmic lift, the exhilarating race to the finish. In the Annen Polka, too, he showed that one could achieve a spirit of gaiety without excessive frothiness. The balance of orchestral timbres was crucial here, the piccolo adding spice rather than vulgarity to the wind chorus.

The choice of programme also ensured a measure of gravity: the *Delirium Waltz* by Josef Strauss has a melodramatic introduction which gives way to some unpredictable, and often inspired, melodic sequences. Franz von Suppé's overture *Morning, Noon and Night in Vienna*, on the other hand, blazes with drama and energy. At least, it did in this scintillating performance, which brought the concert to a rousing conclusion.

Gratifying as it would have been to be able to say that Schumann's "Spring" Symphony, in the first half, was equally successful, honesty compels a more sober assessment. Something of the rich vein of lyricism was tapped in the Larghetto, and there were several occasions where one felt at least a momentary surge of passion. But there was also a tendency to rush fences at these points — and indeed elsewhere in all three fast movements — with inevitably diminishing results. The spontaneity of Schumann's lyricism is one of his most characteristic, and endearing, features. This performance seemed so determined not to be heavy-handed that it failed to savour fully the work's sense of vernal efflorescence.



Franz Welser-Möst: sound grasp of Viennese idiom

So used are we to performances of the Verdi Requiem with a line-up of operatic superstars as soloists that it initially comes as a shock to be offered anything less. The performance at the Festival Hall on Tuesday night under the young Italian conductor **Paolo Olmi** fielded four soloists who are all at an early stage of their career: Norma Fantini, Luciana D'Intino, Cesar Hernandez and Simone Alberghini.

It would be idle to pretend that any of these was a Margaret Price or a Ruggero Raimondi. Yet there were perhaps advantages, in that without unduly forceful individual vocal personalities, the group blended well in nearly all their ensembles. The one exception was the bare octaves of the Agnus Dei.

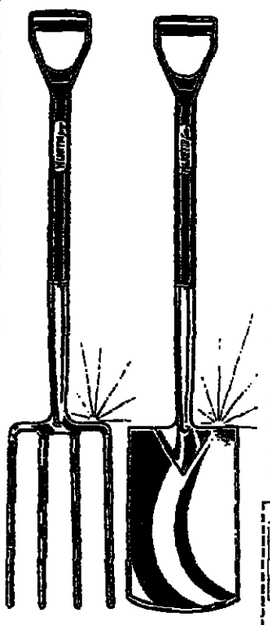
Of the four soloists it was Fantini who impressed most. Her fast vibrato produces an intense, but steady stream of tone, fervently delivered and beautifully controlled. The tenor, Hernandez, was happier in his various full-throated proclamations than in the subdued prayer section, "Hostias et preces tibi" of the Offertorio, where he faltered. Alberghini's line was also rough in places.

Olmi's handling of the work demonstrated an admirable concern for the architecture of the piece, even at the expense of individual events. Not that there wasn't the necessary element of theatrical excitement: the Dies irae, with its ringing offstage trumpets and massed orchestral and choral forces (the **Brighton Festival Chorus** and **London Choral Society** in excellent voice), was thrilling. But Olmi was careful not to overplay his hand too soon, and a lower overall level of dramatic tension was the price paid for greater cohesiveness within and between movements.

The excessive prominence of the flutes in the Agnus Dei and again in the Lux aeterna — the fluttering depiction of everlasting light should be a celestial backdrop — was a rare miscalculation. A handful of less than unanimous entries aside, the **Royal Philharmonic** played sympathetically for Olmi.

BARRY MILLINGTON

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Mary Wesley leads the first flowering of the new spring fiction

My beautiful laundress

Despite Mary Wesley's popularity, **Rachel Cusk** finds her first London novel exaggerated and platitudinous

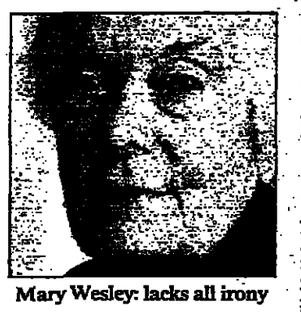
AN IMAGINATIVE EXPERIENCE
By Mary Wesley
Bantam Press, £14.99

The Mary Wesley phenomenon has been with us for some time now, in the form of a rapid succession of novels and their televised adaptations, pouring from the pen of an elderly woman from Devon who appears to be making up for lost time. What is mysterious is not Mary Wesley's enormous popularity with readers, for her writing exhibits all the gentle contrivances of plot and character which typify "romantic" or popular fiction, but rather the literary assessment of her work, which characterises her as a sort of aged and erotic Jane Austen, observing society with malice and wit through the lenses of a love story. Her charm, guile and intelligence are much lauded but leave few traces in her latest novel, the contemporary London setting of which does little to exempt it from the charge of implausibility.

An Imaginative Experience is the story of Sylvester Wykes, a dry, divorced publisher reconstructing a bachelor life from the rubble of his ex-wife's vicissitudes, and Julia Piper, a girl whose quite excessive misfortune should long since have delivered her up to a long-stay institution but who instead appears to be living a relatively normal life in Chelsea.

The two, needless to say, are destined for one another, and the novel concerns the requisite high-jinks and complexities forming the interlude between first sighting and ultimate union. Sylvester first glimpses Julia leaping from a high-speed train, after pulling the emergency cord, to rescue a sheep lying on its back in a field. He is struck by her, as anyone in a similar position would be. The two of them then go about their normal lives, unaware of the thick layer of coincidence now spreading over their somewhat insubstantial characters.

They live, it transpires, within a short distance of each other in London. Sylvester decides to hire a cleaning woman and Julia, inappropriately but not surprisingly, turns out to be exactly that. He advertises in the very corner shop which happens to be the epicentre of Julia's life, and she sees the advertisement. The shop owners, an Indian family who appear to be Julia's only friends, handle the transaction, and as Julia cleans Sylvester's house during the day the two do not meet.


Mary Wesley: lacks all irony

Obviously there must be a subplot to delay still further the inevitable and already overdue encounter, and this is provided with varying success in the form of several minor characters, one of whom, a hack journalist, also witnessed Julia's leap from the train and wants her story. He apparently judges his own curiosity worth the monumental efforts he makes to discover her whereabouts and background, and indulges in a series of quite unmotivated attacks on her, whispering abusive things down the phone and trying to force his way into her flat.

The journalist's investigations lead us to the unsavoury story of Julia's life immediately up to the time of her train stunt: her ex-husband and child have just been killed in a car accident caused by her ex-husband's drunkenness; her ex-husband was in fact her mother's lover who raped her and, when she became pregnant, married her, while continuing his relationship with the demonic mother; the mother loathes Julia unrestrainedly and accuses her of murdering the ex-husband and child merely by divorcing the man, thereby allowing him implicitly to drive a car.

All this drama is portrayed with less realism than a soap opera and is written as if on the assumption that if something is in a book it will automatically be believed. This is a dangerous habit for a writer, and in this case a fairly pointless one: it isn't clear why Julia needs this extraordinary background, seeing as it appears to have contributed nothing to her character.

Sylvester's background is scarcely more credible: his career as a writer was blighted when he gave his wife, Celia, a copy of his first novel, which he had dedicated to her. She laughed at it in contempt and left it behind in their honeymoon hotel. These touches are minor, but together they render the novel almost ineffectual with exaggeration.

Mary Wesley's vocabulary appears oddly dated in places ("I took agin him," says Sylvester of the hack journalist; "What's the hurry, you hasty man?" says a girl at a party to Sylvester), and the formal cadences of her dialogue give her characters a mannered air. Her comedy is uncertain: a minor character, Tim, is given to outbursts of appalling racism when drunk and is used repeatedly as a comic motif, weakly reprimanded for this vice by his girlfriend.

The "imaginative experience" of the title gives the novel a rather platitudinous heart: "The book mocked by Celia had been about Love. It had even begun with a quote from A.N. Wilson: "*Falling in love is the greatest imaginative experience of which most human beings are capable.*" Awkward invocations of contemporary authors aside, the epithet appears somewhat mishandled. Without irony, the "imaginative experience" involves the denial of reality in favour of the predictability of fictionalised love; with it, it might have meant a more insightful look at the deluded perceptions of lovers, and might also have produced a better novel.

Three faces of singular love

Irving Weinman

THE REST OF LIFE
By Mary Gordon
Bloomsbury, £15.99

The novella, fiction's halfway house, needs the short story's focus and the novel's depth. In each of the three novellas comprising *The Rest of Life*, Mary Gordon's focus is a single character. Her depth comes from writing out of the high heart of compassion that never falls into sentimentality.

In the title novella, old Paola returns to Italy with her American son. Her life has been dedicated to forgetting. She survived a teenage suicide pact. Her boyfriend's death and the love affair it revealed had shamed her family into banishing her to America. Now, returning to Turino, she relives the old guilts and self-disgust, made poignant by love. The remembered love scenes are very simple and completely beautiful. In other more sombre and violent scenes, Gordon's unflinchingly appropriate language provides the core of truthfulness, the tact of good writing.

Living at Home is intellectually more ambitious. Its narrator, who works with autistic children, is apparently explaining how, after three failed marriages, she has found the perfect partner, a journalist who continually leaves her for appalling war zones. In fact, she is revealing her own autistic tendencies, the uncertainty of boundaries between self and non-self. But because the passages on autism are long, the incidents short and too neatly exemplary, and the narrator's voice humourless and detached, the effect is of a brilliant essay on autism rather than fiction with autism as its central metaphor.

The book opens with *Immaculate Man*, and this is wonderful. It is the story of a social worker's love affair with a Catholic priest. She is middle-aged and resigned, and Clement falls into her life like a miracle with strings attached. The plot seems made for cuteness: she loves Clement for his innocence, which their affair will end. But as Gordon writes, the ironies come sharp as acid rain.

The bleeding-heart social worker relentlessly judges herself. On a bus she's drawn into the unfair arrest of a passenger whose only offence has been to light a cigarette. Though she won't bear witness against him, she doesn't speak up in his defence. The calm accumulation of detail is devastating: the reader feels complicit in her silence. And the novella is funny, too. Clement's poem to his mother is a perfect Hopkins parody: "Hand, mine, mother. Make Christ's blood/Flesh, from the bulk of bread, real stuff/Earth-stuff, food-stuff, God/Your son this does."

Perfectly awful. I wish I'd written it. Instead, I've had the pleasure of reading this great novella, the most genuine and generous praise of a man's love for a woman, by a woman, that I've ever read.

Vision beyond his sight

Michael Arditti

CHROMA
By Derek Jarman
Century, £15.99

Derek Jarman, the only film-maker ever to be short-listed for the Turner Prize, was cited in recognition of the "outstanding visual quality of his films". Even critics unsympathetic to his subject-matter have responded to the painterly qualities of his style. In addition to his work on film and canvas, Jarman has lately developed a third career as a memoirist. He draws all three strands together in *Chroma*, a meditation on the nature of colour.

His last book, *At Your Own Risk*, was described as "a distillation of his philosophy of life"; *Chroma* is a distillation of his philosophy of art. It comprises 20 brief chapters, each devoted to a colour, a colourist or a theorist of colour, and written in a series of pithy phrases and paragraphs resembling those of his mentors, Leonardo and Wittgenstein. At best, the effect can be oracular... "Time is what keeps the light from reaching us." Even in the section on purple he avoids purple prose.

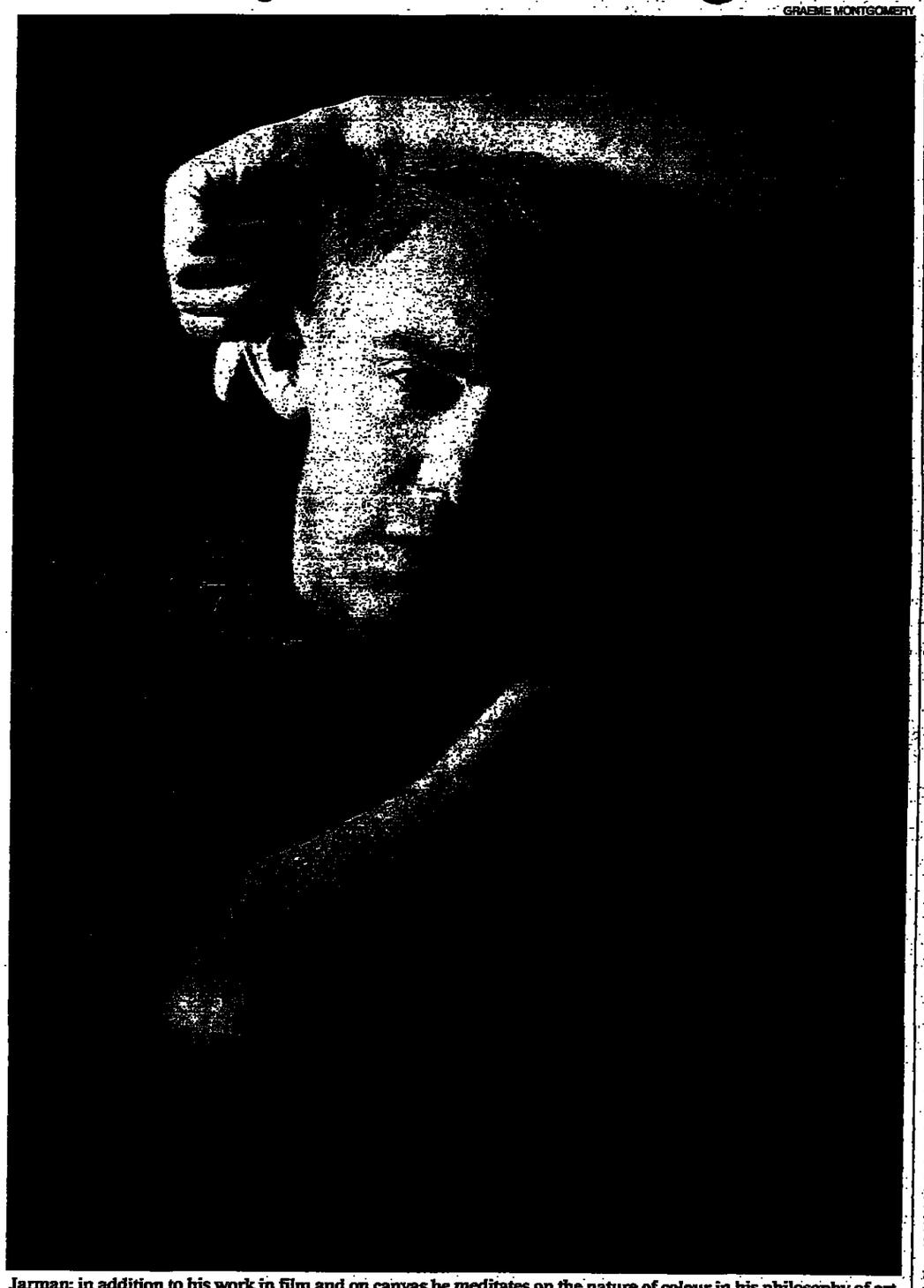
Passages from great philosophers, Aristotle, Pliny and Goethe, are set against lines from great poets, Dante, Keats, Christina Rossetti. Practical information on the nature of pigments and the prices of paints are combined with the opinions of other artists (Kandinsky on red; Malevich on white). Historical details (Napoleon's death caused by arsenic poisoning from green wallpaper) vie with dubious legends (Alexander the Great's urine smelling of violets). The result is a highly original commonplace-book.

The fragmented format works more on the level of philosophical teasing than philosophical enquiry. Jarman constantly creates fascinating connections, even when apparently free-associating ("Blue movies. Blue language. Bluebeard...") and questions the metaphorical use of colours way beyond the obvious black and white. Less successful are passages such as the poem *I am a Mannish Muff-diving Size Queen*, reminiscent of the posturing that marred films like *Edward II*.

The autobiographical element is as pronounced as in Jarman's earlier writing. His admirers will seize on the many references to figures who have populated his films. It is fascinating to note that his first trip to the cinema should have been to see *The Wizard of Oz*, whose central symbols (the ruby slippers, yellow brick road and Emerald City) illustrate *Chroma*'s thesis: the power of colour to transfigure the monochrome and mundane.

The most poignant colours in his spectrum are those which he relates to his own illness — the white of blood-cells, the red of eye-tests, the purple of oxygen-deprivation — and the book is shot through with allusions to his encroaching blindness. And yet he has not been prepared to "stand and wait". His most recent film, *Blue*, was among his most powerful; now *Chroma*, with its rich blend of the philosophical and the personal, the arcane and anecdotal, is a further reminder that Jarman's artistic vision far transcends his impaired sight.

GRAEME MONTGOMERY


Jarman: in addition to his work in film and on canvas he meditates on the nature of colour in his philosophy of art

Talent of a random fruit

Clive Fisher

BODY AND SOUL
By Frank Conroy
Hamish Hamilton, £14.99

If music is the most international of the arts, it is also the most abstruse and indescribable, so it is a matter of some courage to write a novel which confronts those mysteries so directly that the art and its enigmas at times assume the importance of characters and developments.

At first sight, however, *Body and Soul* is a traditional, if not romantic, story of adversity conquered: during the war, in a dingy Manhattan basement shared with his mannish mother, frail and lonely Claude Rawlings opens a dusty piano and, while still a small boy, teaches himself to pick out melodies. Weisfeld, the kindly owner of a local music-shop, glimpses precocity and undertakes to give him lessons. Although the discovery of Schonberg temporarily unseats him he has soon mastered 12-tone music. He performs in concert with a world-famous pianist when still a teenager, and the novel ends with intimations of international greatness.

Conroy is too good a writer to blind with technicalities or bore with single-mindedness, and with the skilful introduction of contrapuntal themes reveals his larger ambition. Claude struggles to understand existence and looks to literature, the cinema and occasional physics for help, before settling for an understanding of the keyboard where life's consonances and dissonances are imprisoned.

He is not alone in his bewilderment: *Body and Soul* is a novel about lonely misfits and is set appropriately in New York, the asylum of transients. Postwar Manhattan is elegantly evoked. Balanchine and Eisler make appearances; the McCarthy trials, the civil rights movement and the Cuban crisis are noises offstage. Yet a simple preoccupation underlies Conroy's large historical sweep: the music of chance.

He flirts with our expectations and suggests connections which never materialise before unleashing more cunning fortuities. To do so without appearing schematic requires nerve and skill enough, but suspense and sympathy, eroticism and lyricism are also within Conroy's scope, and his narrative is not only beautifully written but also resolved with musical satisfaction, as he gathers together the themes and variations that have echoed through his design into the climactic revelation that Claude's brilliance was the random fruit of most improbable parentage.



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Lasagne and desire

Aisling Foster

STIR FRY
By Emma Donoghue
Hamish Hamilton, £9.99

As the title suggests, food is an important ingredient in this witty and original first novel. Stirred into the pot are sexual orientation, growing pains and the concerns of a new Irish generation. Politics hardly figure, except as feminist issues or the misery of the Republic's student grants. But whether tasting lasagne, desire or bedsit blues, 17-year-old Maria is keen to try everything, to appease an awakening appetite for any experience on offer to a UCI fresher. However, a flatshare with two mature students, advertised with female gender symbols and "No Bigots", makes her wonder if she has bitten off more than she can chew.

Foodie Ruth and the rapacious Jael seem delighted by her, enjoying Maria's interpretation of "bigots" as the sort of people she once spent time with in the Gaeltacht learning Irish ("a pair of bitches who supported apartheid"). They have a different type of tolerance in mind.

What follows is a virgin's road to enlightenment, or sexual awakening. The city flat becomes a place of retreat and companionship where Maria's self-confidence gradually develops. So too does her understanding of the disintegrating love affair of her flatmates, which she glimpses with the sharp-eyed interest and cushioned solecism of the very young.

Conversely, the world for this small-town grocer's daughter narrows as her


Emma Donoghue: Irish wit

liberal education progresses. She finds herself drawn inexorably to her new home, despite having spent her school teens in fear that she might never grow up "as long as she stayed under the thrall of the kitchen light-bulb, eating the spirals of sharp peel her mother tossed aside as she made apple pie".

The story is told largely in succinct dialogue, blurred sometimes by Donoghue's playwright tendency to pad it out with stage directions rather than the observations of a student. Her lack of detail misses some of the fun only hinted at about the university campus, a wind-swept concrete folly whose artificial lake and wide open spaces were conceived for a climate more California than Dublin. But just as her college has undergone metamorphosis since Joyce's day, Donoghue's novel is a long way from the Big House or rural depressives of standard Irish fare.

At once shy and smart-ass, Maria is a recognisable type; though it seems particularly unfortunate that of the two men she gets to know, one turns out to be gay and the other has interests elsewhere. Yet such setbacks are served up fast and funny, a welcome change from the victimhood of most homosexual writing.

The language, wit and iconography make this a very Irish piece of work. Where else would women discussing sexual matters in the canteen lower their voices to spare the blushes of a seminarian sitting two tables away, or go to so much trouble to "de-dyke" their flat for a visit by an aunt? And where else would you get a humorous, liberal and anti-apartheid view of lesbianism which is sympathetic to men, condemns power politics in relationships between either sex, and sends up its paranoid and bandwagon sisterhood?

With this clever, interesting and very assured first novel Donoghue has put down a marker for the so-called New Ireland, and its fictions.

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A better man than us

Kipling needs no apology or plea of mitigation from later generations, says **Colin Welch**

Most of us old fogies have loved Kipling's poetry (or verse, as he modestly preferred to call it) all our lives. We are comfortable with it, finding in it few problems, little to question and explain.

We are thus baffled by what each new generation apparently has to do to rediscover and justify him, to render him acceptable and find him good or great. With some apprehension we see young intellectuals and critics, dons and poets rushing forward to defend him against attacks we never launched or perhaps even noticed; to acquit him of holding obnoxious views which we don't find obnoxious at all; to exonerate him from crimes which we thought no crimes or of which we deemed him innocent anyway; to make Kipling's military moustache and stiff collar (see book jacket) dear to all those with torn jeans and wild beards.

Some of Kipling's new defenders seem indeed upon acquaintance most congenial. Peter Keating for instance (no beard) is, with slight reservations, most welcome. Few indeed can be those Kipling buffs who derive no profit, no new insights from his careful and balanced study of the poetry, enthusiastic, imaginative and sensible as it is.

For instance, Kipling is often damned for writing too much public poetry instead of the introspective murmurings now widely favoured. Keating deals crisply with this. He points out that much of Kipling's innermost thought and feeling was about public affairs, that his prophetic public warnings (many uncannily accurate) and sombre admonitions come right from the heart. His heavy sense of public responsibility was not just a check, a brake on his genius, but its vital inspiration.

Eminent indeed have been some of Kipling's unexpected champions. T.S. Eliot felt impelled on every opportunity to testify for Kipling. Nobly he did so in his 1941 introduction to his *Choice of Kipling's Verse*. This sensational publishing event in itself cast doubt on Kipling's neglect by and estrangement from the literary establishment, though he hated some of its members and many hated him. No comparable writers came in 1936, alas, to see him interred in Poet's Corner.

Auden too, denounced by Orwell as a sort of gutless Kipling, nonetheless turned out in safe New York in 1943 to praise Kipling's verse and Eliot's *Choice*. Earlier Auden, quoted by Keating, had said "You were silly like us: Your gift survived it all." Auden was actually addressing Yeats at that point but, according to Keating, addressing himself and Kipling too. Time, Auden continued, has "pardoned Kipling and his views". This unctuous absolution Kipling could perhaps have done without. His views were to him important and right. He cannot have thought them as silly as some of Auden's, nor in need of any pardon from time, Auden or anyone else.

Incidentally, such critical praise as Kipling has got does concentrate disproportionately on his late, "difficult" and "modern" stories. Critics understandably favour work which is complex, ambiguous and in need of an explanatory gloss. Like roughage, it gives them something to chew on, a role and purpose; hence today's much admired obscurity.

Keating is generally and admirably elucidatory about Kipling. Just occasionally he slips, like Auden, into officious pardons, otiose apologies and pleas of mitigation for what are not obviously crimes, lapses or "sillinesses".

For instance, Keating picks out "The White Man's Burden" as "what would come to be regarded as Kipling's most infamous poem". Does Keating himself regard it as "infamous"? He does not say so, but does not explicitly disagree either. Admittedly, if he did, he might be challenged to name at least one poem even more "infamous", which might expose him to other charges of squeamish over-censoriousness. But he does not.

"There can be no doubt", Keating goes on, "that the poem is profoundly racist in sentiment". No doubt? The poem is *imperialist* no doubt, but *racist*? We should always remember about Kipling, what Keating elsewhere honourably emphasises, that "The White Man" he addressed and honoured is not just a man who is white. Boers and Germans might be white in colour, but were not white within the moral meaning of Kipling's Act. They did not in his view stand for that freedom and equal justice that he regarded as essential, were not thus in consequence fit to carry the White Man's Burden.

They were "lesser breeds without the Law". This "Law" they had rejected, thus putting themselves below the coloured "lesser breeds" who had never known it. The Boer in particular treated the "kaffir" too badly to be a White Man in Kipling's moral sense.

If the The White Man's Burden were in fact "profoundly racist", it could not but bring racism into good repute. The White Man is adjured selflessly to serve his captives' needs, to be patient, to suppress his own pride, to "fill full the mouth of Famine and bid the sickness cease". What is wrong or "infamous" about this? The White Man brought some peace and prosperity to Africa. He is gone, or going. Charity workers try nobly, if in vain, to replace him, to alleviate the ensuing chaos. Are they too all "profoundly racist"?

About other allegedly racist outbursts of Kipling's Keating is admirably calm and just. He reminds us that the ballad which begins "Oh, East is East and West is West" continues with a resounding assertion that "when two strong men stand face to face", matters of race, religion, birth and social status are irrelevant. Keating is uneasy about "the two strong men" — a concept open to further objections, "but racism is not one of them".

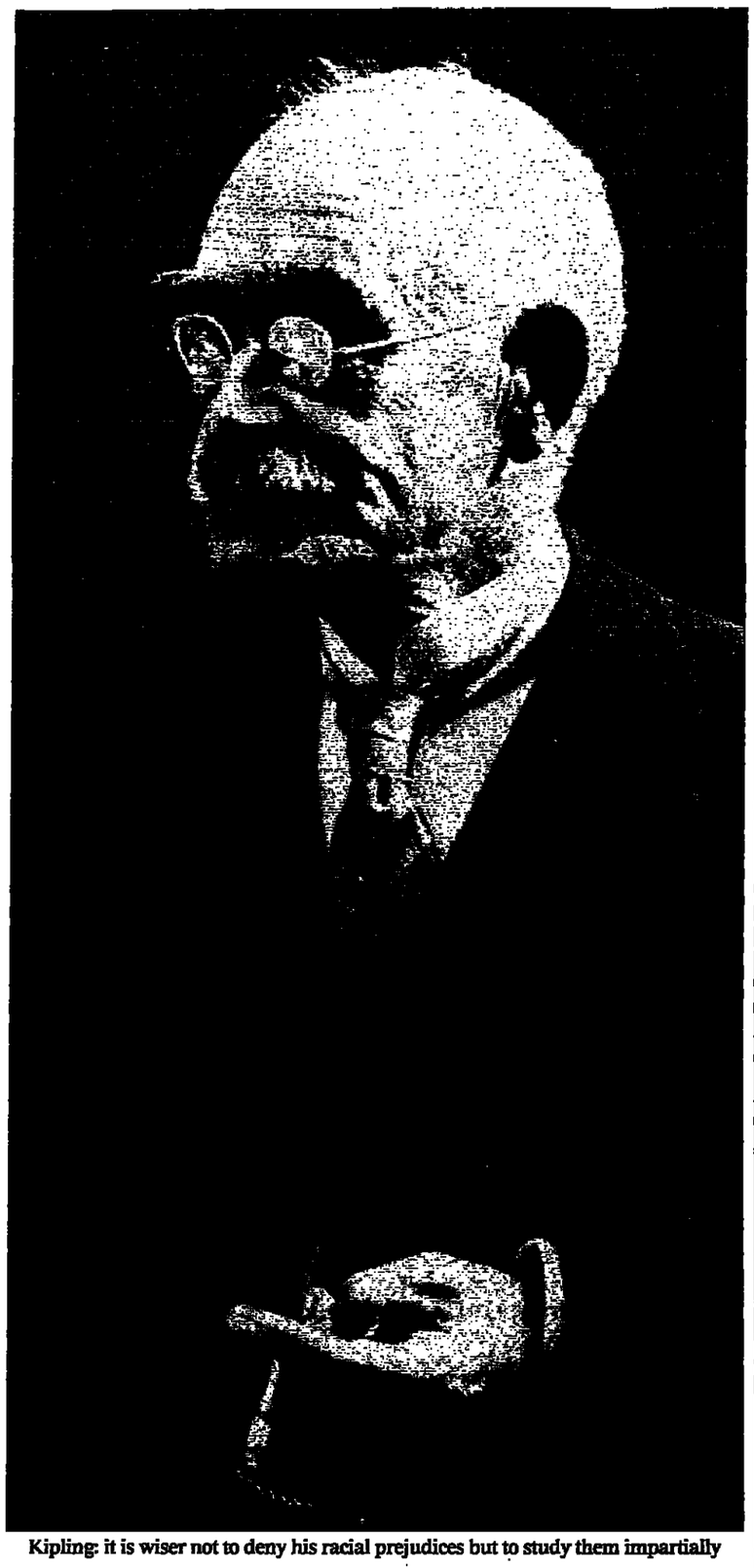
Might not Keating have been wiser to admit at once that Kipling was indeed a racist, as now defined, if of a benign sort? So were most of his contemporaries who had shared his experience and insights, as are perhaps all now who can tell the difference between one race and another. Hitler's racism fathered gas chambers. Kipling's by contrast fathered a lofty and dutiful paternalism. Certainly Kipling's racism could justify to him no crime or "necessary killing" — Auden's chilling and irresponsible phrase. Wiser not to deny Kipling's racism but rather to study it impartially, *sine ira*. Two questions arise at once: was Kipling foolish or evil to be a racist? In Kipling's racism what is wise and good?

Other potential infamies arise from Kipling's supposed misogyny and his slipping easily in correspondence "into the casual language of anti-Semitism". With these Keating deals fairly and briefly.

Kipling's misogyny was common enough in the British India of his day, where the arrival of the memsahib had disastrous social consequences. Her racism was perhaps not as benign as his own.

The Jews he suspected of being in league first with the Kaiser, then with the Bolsheviks: too many were, for reasons which non-Jews familiar with imperial Russian history ruefully understand. Rightly or wrongly, Jews of Kipling's day regarded both the Kaiser and the Bolsheviks as preferable to the Tsars — none of them perhaps White Men to Kipling.

Kipling's "racist" hatred of Germany together with Hitler's persecution of the Jews (if Kipling knew much of it, he died in January 1936) should have cleared his mind. Incidentally, he quickly denounced the Protocols of the Elders of Zion as "clearly fakes". A good start?



Kipling: it is wiser not to deny his racial prejudices but to study them impartially

KIPLING
The Poet
By Peter Keating
Secker & Warburg, £25

The review of Gemma Hussey's *Ireland Today* (January 13) stated wrongly that contraception is available only on prescription there.

Take back the night

Katie Roiphe is a 24-year-old graduate student from Princeton. The object of her polemic is the American rape crisis movement, with its emphasis on sexual harassment, date rape and "Take Back the Night". This, she argues, is false feminism: instead of empowering women, it encourages them to see themselves as victims.

Roiphe does not claim to have produced a fully argued manifesto on sexual politics. She knows she writes best from personal experience, and she is the first to admit the limitations of her work. In fact, the impressionistic nature of many of her most striking observations enhances her writing, enabling her to find a stylistic voice which is fluid, engaging, and assured.

Roiphe centres her argument on the feminist rhetoric coming out of American university campuses. She deploys her critical skills in analysing the language of rape avoidance advice, student role-play workshops, lavatory graffiti, and the rallying cries of demonstrators marching "to end sexual violence against women". She also includes a series of clever satirical portraits of her contemporaries.

Roiphe's comparison between a pamphlet like *Is Dating Dangerous?* and Victorian guides to feminine conduct is witty and instructive. Like their great-grandmothers, today's students are being told to to avoid the unchaperoned company of male acquaintances. Young women are being taught that every man is a potential rapist. Sex is something men are out to get and women need to protect themselves against. Roiphe argues that femaleness is being equated with vulnerability rather than strength.

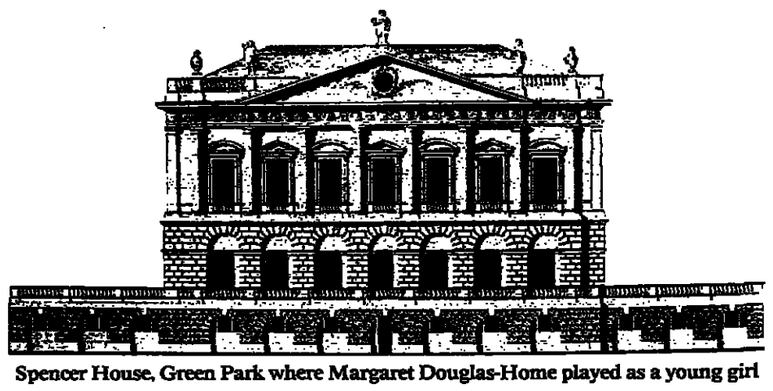
According to a now notorious survey originally commissioned by *Ms* magazine, one in four American college students has been the victim of rape or attempted rape. Roiphe does not dismiss this statistic out of hand, but she accounts for the incredible figure by questioning a definition of rape that is stretched so far that it includes (according to one feminist article) "a woman's consenting to unwanted sexual activity because of a man's verbal arguments *not including* verbal threats of force". Not only, she implies, does this reduce the word rape to near meaninglessness, it also suggests that men are frighteningly superior to women not only in physical strength but also in intellect.

Why, Roiphe asks, should this image of feminine vulnerability have such powerful ideological appeal among her peers? Her vivid descriptions of Take Back the Night demonstrations suggest the mass hysteria of a revivalist prayer meeting. Roiphe gets the sense that these women are perversely exalting in their victimhood. She points out how emotionally manipulative it can be to present oneself as a victim, blocking rational analysis of a situation.

Much of Roiphe's polemic seems like straightforward common sense: she hardly needs to point out the absurdity of the sort of gender politics which leads to seven-year-olds filing harassment complaints against their classmates. Her argument is more opaque when grappling with the complexities of the pornography-censorship debate. But as an individual's rebellion against what she feels to be a stifling orthodoxy, this is a revealing — and involving — document.

Lucasta Miller

THE MORNING AFTER
Sex, Fear and Feminism
By Katie Roiphe
Hamish Hamilton, £7.99



Spencer House, Green Park where Margaret Douglas-Home played as a young girl

Homes sweet homes

J.W.M. Thompson

A SPENCER CHILDHOOD
By Margaret Douglas-Home
John Catt Educational, £4.95 pbk original

The author of this charming memoir is in her 88th year, so the childhood in question is fairly remote in time. The social scene it recalls seems even more distant. There are few remaining traces of the way of life which flourished in great country houses in Edwardian days, and the surviving witnesses who can depict it with the sparkle Margaret Douglas-Home brings to the task must be very few indeed.

She is the great-aunt of the present Earl Spencer and of the Princess of Wales; she is also the widow of Alec Douglas-Home's brother Henry and the mother of the late Charlie Douglas-Home, Editor of *The Times* 1982-85; but to describe her by reference to others is to do less than justice to her own lively qualities. These are evident throughout this account of her upbringing at Althorp, the grand Spencer house in Northamptonshire.

Her mother died at her birth so the only Spencers living there were her grieving, lonely father and herself, a solitary child whose brothers and sisters had grown up and gone. Young Margaret was trained not to get in her father's way; fortunately, "the presence of innumerable and loving servants kept the house alive". So, no doubt, did the presence of this perceptive child.

The pattern of life which she fondly portrays was undeviating from year to year. A spell at Althorp was followed by a stay at Spencer House, and the annual cycle was completed by a summer visit to Norfolk. Spencer House's quiet street off Green Park was ideal for pogo-stick games, although as it was in London a hat had always to be worn. At Althorp she noted the number of red-bearded farm workers about the place, looking remarkably like the ancestral portraits in the house, and this, she adds drily, reinforced her sense of continuity.

Her memories of events embrace the coronation of George V and a performance by Sarah Bernhardt ("for me, at that moment, that voice filled the whole world"). They are supported by engaging illustrations and an affectionate foreword by Lord Spencer.

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Daniel Johnson

LITERARY ENGLANDS
Versions of "Englishness" in modern writing
By David Gervais
Cambridge, £30

F.R. Leavis's chief legacy remains his elevation of the status and claims of literary criticism. Criticism as practised at Cambridge under Leavis was pursued with quasi-religious dedication. And the most sacred function of criticism was to analyse the "Englishness" of English literature.

Literary Englands is a critique of literary nationhood and nostalgia in which Leavis is a palpable, even ubiquitous presence. David Gervais, an editor of *The Cambridge Quarterly*, takes it for granted that Leavis may be compared on equal terms with T.S. Eliot; that Edward Thomas and George Sturt, who impressed Leavis, deserve extended treatment; and that novels or poems may, filtered through the critic's close reading, adumbrate an entire culture.

Such claims for literature, let alone for criticism, seem overblown outside Cambridge. Gervais acknowledges that the study of English is more "tangential to England" than in Leavis's day: "We tend now to study English writers not for the sense they give us of England but in lieu of it. We feel on safer ground with 'theory' than 'tradition'."

Here, Englishness is treated dialectically: Gervais draws contrasts between the Englands of Housman and James, Forster and Lawrence, Leavis and Eliot, Orwell and Waugh, Betjeman and Larkin. These "versions of Englishness" often seem incompatible; yet syntheses do emerge, a *coincidentia oppositorum*, in the recurrent desire to transcend the present by returning to the past.

The internal inconsistencies of individual "literary Englands" are as obvious as their pursuit of a common identity: "It is, in fact, precisely when an idea of England unites writers as dissimilar as Orwell and Waugh," writes Gervais, "that one can begin to think of it as having some representative significance."

England emerges from this book as a fragmented country: "Literary devolution" has led many writers to identify with their roots in the regions, and calls into question the very idea of "English literature". "It is an illusion," he writes, "to imagine that, because one is English, one knows what England is".

Yet Gervais implies that he, at least, does know: "... the contemporary disabused attitude to nationalism and jingoism is surely a constant feature of 'Englishness' and not just a fruit of post-Suez realism." He is incensed that Larkin, "this presiding bard of the comprehensive school", should have been in favour of the 11-plus. Tony Harrison, by contrast, "has a gift for hitting the nail on the head of basic English concerns like language, class and the past".

Discussing the contemporary poet Geoffrey Hill, Gervais suggests that "England ... only has a meaning if it is considered as part of Europe". This is a paradoxical précis of Hill's archaic, profoundly introspective England. It is a paradox that politicians who wish to define Englishness in opposition to a federal Europe must confront.

THE TIMES

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Court of Appeal | Law Report January 27 1994 | Queen's Bench Division

Complainant does not institute proceedings

Martin v Watson

Before Lord Justice Ralph Gibson, Lord Justice McCowan and Lord Justice Hobhouse

[Judgment January 21]

A person who made a complaint to the police and then left it to them to decide what to do had not instituted proceedings so as to "set the law in motion" and therefore could not be a malicious prosecutor.

The Court of Appeal so held (Lord Justice McCowan dissenting) in a reserved judgment when allowing the appeal of Mrs Ulka Watson from the decision of Judge Goodman in Bromley County Court on July 13, 1992 giving judgment to Mr John Martin, the plaintiff, for £3,500 on the ground that Mrs Watson had maliciously prosecuted Mr Martin for an offence of indecent exposure when to her knowledge he had not committed any such offence.

Mr Richard Christie for Mrs Watson; Mr Jonathan P. Rose for Mr Martin.

LORD JUSTICE RALPH GIBSON said that leave to appeal had been granted on the one point of law that the judge, in finding for Mr Martin, had misdirected himself in that, on the facts found, it could not be said that Mrs Watson had set the law in motion against Mr Martin and was thus his prosecutor.

The essential elements of the tort of malicious prosecution were as stated in *Clerk and Linsell on Torts* (16th edition (1989) paragraph 1905): "In an action of malicious prosecution the plaintiff must show first that he was prosecuted by the defendant, that is to say, that the law was set in motion against him on a criminal charge: secondly, that the prosecution was determined in his favour: thirdly, that it was without reasonable and probable cause: fourthly, that it was malicious. The onus of proving every one of these is on the plaintiff."

But although for many years the law had been so stated, that is to say that the law had to be shown to have been set in motion by the defendant, there had been no clear statement in the books of what conduct would suffice for that purpose. There was no decision of the courts on the point.

It was to be answered by finding that which best served the demands of conflicting principles of policy: "safeguarding the individual from being harassed by unjustifiable litigation and encouraging citizens to aid in law enforcement" see *Fleming The Law of Torts* (8th edition (1992) p609).

The test, as it had long been stated, was requirement of proof that the defendant was "actively instrumental in the making or prosecution of a charge" as derived from *Danby v Beardsley* ((1880) 43 LT 603).

The question was whether the force of the point of policy was such that the court should exclude as irrelevant, or find it to be by itself insufficient, the fact that the defendant deliberately deceived the police by supplying false information in the absence of which the police would not have proceeded.

There was, in his Lordship's opinion, much to be said in favour of a rule which would confine a cause of action for malicious prosecution to claims against a defendant who had done by himself or by his agent some formal act by which he assumed responsibility for the prosecution, such as by laying an information.

In his Lordship's view, it would not be right so to limit and define the concept of "setting the law in motion" or of being "actively instrumental in the making or prosecuting of the charge".

His Lordship was, however, persuaded that it would be wrong to accept that the concept of "setting the law in motion" could be satisfied by proof that a defendant had done no more than to *make an allegation to a police* officer with the intention that the police officer should act upon it against the party accused and with knowledge that the allegation was untrue.

The point of the law as formulated was to protect the person who went to the police to complain and who left it to the police to decide what to do. Such a person was not the prosecutor for the tort of malicious prosecution.

The purpose of that protection was that such a person should not have to face the anxiety and expense of being sued, upon acquittal of the party accused.

That protection would largely be destroyed if an arguable claim could be put forward against such a person by the addition of an allegation that he knew that his complaint to the police was untrue.

LORD JUSTICE McCOWAN, dissenting, said that he had found no English authority which was directly to the point in the present case. In particular, the case of *Danby* was clearly distinguishable because there the court accepted that the defendant genuinely believed that the goods were his and that the plaintiff had stolen them.

In Commonwealth jurisdictions, however, there had been a number of cases which posed similar problems to those in the present case and which lent powerful support to the argument of the plaintiff.

His Lordship was in complete agreement with views found in *Commonwealth Life Assurance Society Ltd v Brain* ([1953] 53 CLR 343, 379) a decision of the High Court of Australia; *Watters v Pacific Delivery Service Ltd* ((1963) 42 DLR 661, 669) a Canadian case, and *Commercial Union Assurance Co of NZ Ltd* v Lamont ([1989] 3 NZLR 187, 207).

Was there some consideration of public policy which should lead to a contrary conclusion?

There could surely be no wish to encourage citizens to make deliberately false charges against a fellow citizen to the police. That could hardly be described as law enforcement. It was a perversion of the law and deserved no protection.

There was no justification for the view that it would be harmful in those circumstances for such a false accuser to be sued for malicious prosecution. On the contrary, it would be very regrettable if the law were that a complainant could deliberately concoct an allegation of crime against an innocent man and persuade a police officer, in the absence of any other evidence against the man, to lodge a charge against him, knowing it to be false and malicious, but escaped liability for malicious prosecution because the officer and not the complainant had laid the information.

On the findings of fact found, in his Lordship's opinion, the judge was entitled to find that the defendant had played a sufficient role in the institution of proceedings to be regarded as setting them in motion.

His Lordship would dismiss the appeal.

LORD JUSTICE HOBHOUSE, allowing the appeal, said that the first and second elements in the tort of malicious prosecution, that the plaintiff must show that he was prosecuted by the defendant and that the prosecution was determined in his favour, were questions of fact and related to the prosecution. If there had been no prosecution, the tort of malicious prosecution could not have been committed.

In the present case, the relevant police officer was under no obligation to lay the information. He had to form his own view. There was nothing to displace the discretion and judgment of the officer whether or not to institute criminal proceedings against the plaintiff in the laying of the complaint.

Solicitors: C. R. Burton & Co, Anerley; Wellers, Bromley.

Council liable over injury to child

Harrison v Surrey County Council and Others

Before Mr Justice Scott Baker

[Judgment January 20]

A child-minder in whose hands a child had suffered non-accidental injury and the local authority by which she was statutorily registered and which had knowledge of an earlier case of non-accidental injury were both liable in damages to the child.

Mr Justice Scott Baker so held in the Queen's Bench Division when giving judgment in favour of the plaintiff, Thomas George Harrison, a minor, suing by his mother and next friend, Cora Elizabeth Dowling, in his claim for damages (i) for negligent mis-statement by Surrey County Council, the first defendant; and (ii) for breach of contract, negligence and assault by Mrs Christine Walton, the second defendant. His actions against (i) the council for breach of statutory duty and common law negligence and (ii) Mr Martin Walton, the third defendant, for assault were dismissed.

Mr Lionel Swift, QC and Mr Graham Robinson for the plaintiff; Mr Edward Faulks for the council; Miss Elizabeth Gumbel for Mr and Mrs Walton.

MR JUSTICE SCOTT BAKER said that Mrs Walton was registered as a child-minder by Surrey County Council on June 1, 1989.

On June 14, 1989, when Denise Hewitt collected her son Simon, aged four months, from Mrs Walton, he appeared unwell. He was admitted to hospital the same day and it subsequently became clear that he had suffered a cranial haemborrage caused either by a direct blow to the head or severe shaking.

On September 13, 1989, Cora Dowling was informed that her son Thomas, aged six months, had been rushed to hospital from the home of Mrs Walton and that he too had suffered a non-accidental injury involving brain damage of a similar nature to that suffered by Simon Hewitt.

His Lordship said that he was satisfied that both infants had suffered non-accidental injuries while in the care of Mrs Walton and that only Mrs Walton, and not her husband, was responsible for the injuries caused.

On August 25, 1989 Miss Dowling telephoned Mr Peter Bodycomb, the nursery and child-minding adviser for the Ashford area, Surrey, mentioned that she had contacted Mrs Walton, asked for confirmation that she was registered, which confirmation he gave, and asked also if he was happy for Thomas to be placed in her care, to which he replied that he was.

The court found that Mr Bodycomb had told Miss Dowling nothing about the Simon Hewitt matter, nor that Ashford social services had called two case conferences in June, following Simon's problems, and that at the very least, viewed objectively, that had left a question mark about whether Simon had suffered a non-accidental injury while in Mrs Walton's care.

His Lordship found that the local authority approached the Simon Hewitt matter with a general lack of urgency and had taken no steps to suspend Mrs Walton's certificate of registration, albeit pending enquiries. Further, even though the two case conferences had left unresolved the question of the cause of Simon's injury, one real possibility remained: namely, that Mrs Walton was responsible.

The local authority put the interests of the child-minder before those of the child; in his Lordship's judgment, the child's interest should have been paramount.

The crucial feature of the case was not so much the local authority's failure to de-register Mrs Walton, but its failure to tell Miss Dowling the full facts when she made her telephone enquiry on August 25.

As to the issue of the local authority's alleged breach of statutory duty, the relevant legislation being the Nurseries and Child-Minders Regulation Act 1948, his Lordship said that in essence that allegation could only be that the local authority had failed to cancel Mrs Walton's registration: see sections 5 and 6 of the 1948 Act.

His Lordship said that it by no means followed that because the local authority failed to meet its obligations under the Act, an action lay against it by a private individual.

His Lordship could find nothing in the Act to indicate that the legislation in question intended to confer private law rights of action upon certain individuals, therefore the claim in breach of statutory duty failed.

His Lordship added that the issues of the breach of statutory duty and common law negligence in respect of the exercise of power by a local authority under the Act ran very much hand in glove and that he could find no common law duty owed to the plaintiff based on failure to cancel the registration, so that it followed that the plaintiff's claim in negligence failed on all grounds pleaded, with the exception of that arising from the telephone conversation between Mr Bodycomb and Miss Dowling.

If Mr Bodycomb had merely told Miss Dowling that Mrs Walton was a registered child-minder, that would not give rise to any liability. But, his Lordship said the fact that Mr Bodycomb went much further and told her that he could see no reason why Thomas should not go to Mrs Walton, sounded in negligent mis-statement. All the criteria for founding liability on negligent mis-statement were met.

Solicitors: Blakesley Rice MacDonald; Chesterfield; Barlow Lyde & Gilbert; Dresdens.

No privilege in insurance stage

Brown v Guardian Royal Exchange Assurance plc

Before Lord Justice Neill, Lord Justice Hoffmann and Lord Justice Waite

[Judgment January 25]

A solicitor who was being sued for negligence by his former clients, and who claimed an indemnity under a professional indemnity insurance master policy issued pursuant to the Solicitors' Indemnity Rules 1986, could not, in subsequent proceedings against the insurers, claim legal professional privilege in relation to documents generated throughout the period that solicitors instructed and paid for by the insurers were acting for him.

The Court of Appeal so stated allowing an appeal by the insurers, Guardian Royal Exchange Assurance plc, from the decision of Judge Anthony Diamond, QC, who, sitting as a High Court judge on July 31, 1992, had ruled as a preliminary point of law that documents between the plaintiff solicitor, Alastair Graham John Brown, and his solicitors, Reynolds Porter Chamberlain, were privileged.

The plaintiff, who had been sued for negligence by a couple for whom he had acted in a conveyancing transaction, was compulsorily insured under a professional indemnity insurance master policy issued pursuant to the Solicitors Indemnity Rules 1986, made by the Law Society under section 37 of the Solicitors Act 1974.

Clause 8(c) of the policy stated, *inter alia*: "Where solicitors or other expert advisers are so employed their fees and expenses will be for the account of the insurers who may require the solicitors' reports to be submitted directly to them."

Reynolds Porter Chamberlain were instructed by the insurers to act for the plaintiff in the negligence claim.

After a conference with counsel Reynolds Porter Chamberlain formed the view that the plaintiff might have been not merely negligent but actually dishonest and they informed the plaintiff that the insurers had repudiated liability and that they could no longer act for him.

The policy contained an arbitration clause and the plaintiff started arbitration proceedings against the insurers claiming that he was entitled to be indemnified. The insurers asked for discovery of Reynolds Porter Chamberlain's files during the period in which they were acting for the plaintiff who claimed legal professional privilege.

Mr Richard Seymour, QC and Mr John Brisby for the insurers; Mr Gavin Lightman, QC and Mr Philip S. Marshall for the plaintiff.

LORD JUSTICE HOFFMANN said that the issue was whether the insurers were entitled to know what happened while the joint representation still subsisted. The answer, in his Lordship's view, depended entirely on the construction of clause 8 which stated that the insurers were entitled to reports.

Two questions arose. First, reports as to what? In his Lordship's judgment, reports as to everything which the solicitors had learned about the claim.

His Lordship did not see how Reynolds Porter Chamberlain could have given the insurers an intelligible report on the prospects of the claim succeeding without at the same time expressing a view on whether the plaintiff had been fraudulent, negligent or neither.

The effect of the policy was that anything the plaintiff said to Reynolds Porter Chamberlain was to be treated as having been said to the insurers and the plaintiff must be taken to have known that.

The second question was whether the right to ask for a report continued after the termination of the clause 8 retainer.

The judge thought that it did not.

But that construction produced very arbitrary results.

The right of the insurers to know what happened while they were paying the solicitors' bill would depend on the accident of how regularly reports were made or whether the insurers happened to send a representative to a conference.

In the present arbitration, the plaintiff was saying that the insurers were not entitled to any of the documents generated throughout the time that Reynolds Porter Chamberlain were acting for him, although the insurers would, if they had asked at that time, undoubtedly have been entitled to see whatever was in existence before Reynolds Porter Chamberlain ceased to act.

In his Lordship's view, the more natural construction of clause 8 was that the insurers were entitled at any time to reports on whatever transpired during the subsistence of the retainer.

Lord Justice Neill delivered a concurring judgment and Mr Justice Waite agreed.

Solicitors: Barlow Lyde & Gilbert; Eatons, Streatham.

Discretion to order exhumation

In re Knight (deceased)

A consistory court had a discretion to order the exhumation of cremated remains but it was a discretion which could be exercised only for special reasons and not as a matter of course or a matter of merely completing certain formalities.

Mr Harold Lomas, Chancellor of the Chester Consistory Court so held on November 23 when granting a faculty for the exhumation of the cremated remains of Edward William Knight and for his reinterment.

THE CHANCELLOR said that there was nothing provisional in the forms of service for the dead authorised in the Church of England, the whole intention of which was that the remains of the deceased should be laid at rest once and for all.

But having regard to the particular circumstances of the present case and in particular to the deceased's intention to return to his home county before he died, the faculty for exhumation and reinterment would be granted.

Signing omission irrelevant

Stilgoe v Eager

Assuming that an inspector of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals was a person charged with investigating offences under the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984, there was no significance or substance in his failure to offer an interviewee the opportunity of signing the interview record where each question and answer had been initialled by her.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Ralph Gibson and Mrs Justice Smith) so held on January 21 in allowing an appeal by way of case stated by Inspector Paul Stilgoe of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals against the dismissal by Bradford Justices of an information laid by him against Jean Eager alleging that she caused unnecessary suffering to a puppy, contrary to section 1(1)(a) of the Protection of Animals Act 1911.

LORD JUSTICE RALPH GIBSON said that, assuming the appellant to be a person "charged with the duty of investigating offences or charging offenders" under section 67(9) of the 1984 Act, the fact that an interviewee had not been asked to sign her name at the end of an interview record and did not know that the inspector had later added the words "this record was taken contemporaneously and signed by Jean Eager", could not possibly be of any significance or substance where the interviewee had read and initialled all the questions and answers recorded.

Accordingly, the interview record was not to be excluded under section 78 of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984.

Moreover, the justices had been right to accept that as the interview had occurred at the interviewee's home, and not a police station, the inspector had had no duty under Code C3.1 of the *Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (s66) Codes of Practice* to inform her of her right to consult a solicitor.

Admitting discredited evidence

Regina v Williams (Seymore Anthony)
Regina v Smith (Patrick Norman)

Where the evidence of police officers was discredited the fact that such witnesses were not discredited until later trials did not make any difference to the admissibility of that evidence on appeal.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Leggatt, Mr Justice Morland and Mr Justice Bell) so held on January 20 in allowing appeals by Seymore Anthony Williams and Patrick Norman Smith against their convictions in February 1985 at Birmingham Crown Court (Judge Cole and a jury) of conspiracy to rob and robbery.

LORD JUSTICE LEGGATT said that the appellants were convicted on the evidence of alleged confessions and signed statements made to officers of the West Midlands Serious Crime Squad.

Subsequently, the same officers were discredited in later cases where confessions were found to have been fabricated.

The Court of Appeal would not shut its eyes to the fact that the evidence of the police officers in the present case had been discredited in later cases merely because the later cases took place after the trial in question. The criteria for admissibility remained the same.

The most significant matter concerning the chronology of the cases was that the Crown could not be criticised for not having given details of the other cases to the defence, since they had not then taken place.

European Law Report | Luxembourg

Insufficient dumping evidence

Rima Electrometalurgia SA v Council of the European Communities (Commission of the European Communities, intervener)

Case C-216/91

Before J. C. Moitinho de Almeida, President of the Fifth Chamber, Judge R. Joliet and Judge G. C. Rodriguez Iglesias

Advocate General C. O. Lenz

(Opinion July 15, 1993)

[Judgment December 7]

The existence of sufficient evidence of dumping and the injury resulting therefrom was always a prerequisite for the opening of an investigation, whether at the initiation of an anti-dumping proceeding or in the course of a review of a regulation imposing anti-dumping duties.

The Court of Justice of the European Communities (Fifth Chamber) so held in granting an application for the annulment of a regulation imposing definitive anti-dumping duties.

Rima was a Brazilian company which had its registered office in Belo Horizonte and was engaged in the production and sale of ferro-alloys, including ferro-silicon.

On September 12, 1986, further to a complaint lodged by the Community producers of ferro-silicon, the Commission initiated an anti-dumping proceeding concerning imports of ferro-silicon originating in Brazil. Since the investigation showed that Rima had not been engaged in dumping, products manufactured and exported by Rima were exempted from the application of anti-dumping duty.

On May 3, 1990, the Commission, pursuant to article 14 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 2423/88 of July 11, 1988 the basic regulation on protection against dumped or subsidised imports from countries not members of the European Economic Community (OJ 1988 L209, p1) opened a review of the anti-dumping measures adopted in relation to imports of ferro-silicon from Brazil.

That review was opened in response to the filing of a review application by a number of Brazilian exporters upon whom the anti-dumping duty had been imposed. Those undertakings asserted that their exports in 1989 were no longer being dumped and that the Community industry was for that reason no longer suffering material injury.

The review was not limited to those exporters who had requested it but was extended to cover all Brazilian exporters, including Rima.

The Commission therefore carried out a second investigation and later communicated its initial calculations, which indicated a dumping margin for Rima of 38.2 per cent.

After hearing the views of the company, the Council, acting on a proposal by the Commission, adopted the contested regulation. Article 1(3) of that regulation, the provision whose annulment was sought in these proceedings, imposed a definitive anti-dumping duty of 12.2 per cent of the net free-at-Community-frontier price on exports by Rima of ferro-silicon.

In its judgment the Court of Justice (Fifth Chamber) held as follows:

By its first plea Rima claimed that, since the initial investigation had resulted in a finding that it had not been engaged in dumping, the new investigation into its affairs carried out in the context of the review prompted by the request by five exporters subjected to an anti-dumping duty was vitiated by illegality. It took the view that a new investigation would have been lawful only if there had been evidence of dumping on its part.

It followed from article 14 of the basic regulation that, where review necessitated a new investigation which, with regard to one or more undertakings, had the same scope as the initial investigation, the new investigation must be reopened in accordance with article 7.

Article 7(1) required sufficient evidence, which must, under article 5(2), relate to existence of dumping and the injury resulting therefrom. That conclusion was corroborated by article 5(1) of the GATT Anti-Dumping Code.

The purpose of the above provisions of the basic regulation, as of article 5(1) of the GATT Anti-Dumping Code, was to prevent exporters from being subjected to anti-dumping investigations which were not justified on objective grounds.

It followed that the existence of sufficient evidence of dumping and the injury resulting therefrom was always a prerequisite for the opening of an investigation, whether at the initiation of an anti-dumping proceeding or in the course of a review of a regulation imposing anti-dumping duties.

Contrary, however, to what the applicant had maintained, the evidence required need not necessarily relate to dumping on the part of each of the undertakings under investigation.

For that reason it could not be excluded that the Commission might, if it had sufficient evidence of dumping in the case of imports of certain products originating in a third country, decide to open an investigation into undertakings manufacturing or exporting the products in question, even though it did not have evidence of dumping by each of the undertakings included in the investigation.

In the light of those factors, the question was whether, in the present case, the investigation opened by the Commission with respect to Rima was justified by the existence of sufficient evidence.

The Court then examined the evidence submitted and concluded that in the absence of any evidence of dumping, the conditions for the initiation of an investigation which were imposed by article 7(1) of the basic regulation were not satisfied. It was not necessary to consider the other pleas in law submitted by the applicant.

On those grounds the European Court (Fifth Chamber):

1 Annulled article 1(3) of Council Regulation (EEC) No 1115/91 of April 29, 1991 imposing definitive anti-dumping duties in connection with the review of anti-dumping measures concerning imports of ferro-silicon originating in Brazil;

2 Ordered the Council to pay the costs;

3 Ordered the Commission to bear its own costs.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES 071-782 7344

LEGAL NOTICES

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, Plaintiff, v. 1) REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 351 WEST END LANE, LONDON, ENGLAND AND ITS BUILDINGS, EASEMENTS, ATTACHMENTS, FIXTURES AND APPURTENANCES AND IMPROVEMENTS; 2) 50,000 POUNDS STERLING LOCATED IN THE TRUST ACCOUNT OF MR. T CRYAN, SOLICITOR, LONDON, ENGLAND. Defendant.

Case No. C 93-1600-WHO NOTICE OF FORFEITURE ACTION

PUBLIC NOTICE OF FORFEITURE ACTION IS HEREBY GIVEN that on the 27th day of May, 1993, the defendant real property was arrested on behalf of the United States Marshals Service for the Northern District of California, pursuant to a Warrant of Arrest of Property in Rem issued by the Clerk of the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, in the above entitled suit for forfeiture, brought under the provisions of 21 U.S.C. $ 881 and 18 U.S.C. $ 981.

A Government forfeiture complaint has been filed with the Clerk of the United States District Court for the Northern District of California. The case number of the said action is C 93-1600 WHO.

On October 14, 1993, the defendant 50 pounds sterling located in the trust account of Mr. T. Cryan, Solicitor, London, England was arrested on behalf of the United States Marshals Service pursuant to a Warrant of Arrest of Property in Rem issued by the Clerk of the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, in the above entitled suit for forfeiture brought under the provisions of 21 U.S.C. $ 881 and 18 U.S.C. $ 981.

An Amended Government Forfeiture Company has been filed with the Clerk of the United States District Court for the Northern District of California under C 93-1600 WHO.

All persons claiming any right, title or interest in the defendant properties are hereby notified to file a claim within ten (10) days of this notice and to file an answer to the amended complaint within twenty (20) days thereafter, with the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, 16th Floor, 450 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102 and serve a copy of the claim and/or answer upon the United States Attorney's Office, Attention: Jonathan R. Howden, Assistant United States Attorney, 10th Floor, 450 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, California 94102, in order to show cause, if any there be, why the defendant properties should not be decreed against and forfeited to the United States, and that all right, title and interest be vested in the United States of America.

Dated: 12 - 8, 1993
MICHAEL J. YAMAGUCHI
United States Attorney
JONATHAN R. HOWDEN
Assistant United States Attorney

LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES

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CREDITORS' VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION Notice of Intended dividend Notice to the Creditors of CARO Realisations Limited (Formerly CRAC Limited) (In Liquidation) Company Number: 2089956 The Liquidator of CARO Realisations Limited gives notice under the provisions of Rule 4.186 and Rule 11.2 of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that he intends to declare a first and final dividend to the unsecured creditors of the company on 23 February 1994. Creditors who have not already done so, must send details in writing, of any claim against the company to the Liquidator Jonathan Guy Anthony Phillips of Price Waterhouse at No. 1 London Bridge, London, SE1 9QL by 18 February 1994 which is the last day for submitting claims. A creditor who does not make a claim by that date will not be included in the proposed final distribution. Date 24 January 1994 Jonathan Guy Anthony Phillips Liquidator

NO 00100 of 1994 IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE CHANCERY DIVISION IN THE MATTER OF SAXON INNS LIMITED AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985 Notice is hereby given that a Petition was on the 7th day of January 1994 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the Share Premium Account of the above named Company by £977,006. AND NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before Mr. Registrar Buckley at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2 on Wednesday the 9th day of February 1994. ANY Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of any Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of the Share Premium Account should appear at the time of hearing by person or by Counsel for that purpose. A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same Dated this 20th day of January 1994. Richards Butler Beaufort House 15 St. Botolph Street London EC3A 7EE

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986 THE COFFEE HOUSE (LOWESTOFT) LTD Trading Name: Pavilion Restaurant NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN Pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above named Company will be held on 10 February 1994 at Dunston Hall Hotel & Country Club Ewarthorpe, Norwich, at 3.00 pm for the purposes mentioned in Section 99 et seq of the said Act. NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that Maurice Raymond Dorrington, FIPA of 4 Charterhouse Square, London, EC1M 6EN is appointed to act as the qualified Insolvency Practitioner pursuant to Section 98 (2)(a) of the said Act who will furnish Creditors with such information as they may require. DATED this 20th day of January 1994. BY ORDER OF THE BOARD MARTIN SOUTH, DIRECTOR.

No: 00204 of 1994 IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE CHANCERY DIVISION IN THE MATTER OF AMBERLEY GROUP PLC - and - IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice on 13th January 1994 for the confirmation of the cancellation of the Share Premium Account of the above named Company AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Petition referred to above is directed to be heard before Mr Registrar Buckley on 9th February 1994 at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL.

ANY Creditor or Shareholder of the above named Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the cancellation of the Share Premium Account should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose. A copy of the Petition referred to above will be furnished to any such person requiring it by the Solicitors for the above named Company on payment of the regulated charge. DATED this 27th day of January 1994. DENSITY & CO 5 COLMORE CIRCUS BIRMINGHAM B4 6BH Solicitors for the above named Company.

WAVENEY INNS (CARLTON HOTEL) LIMITED THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986 on 9 February 1993 Simon Vincent Frankley of Bachler Phillips, 84 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9DF and Christopher John Wilkinson Hill of Ernst & Young, Compass House, 80 Newmarket Road, Cambridge CB5 8DZ were appointed Joint Liquidators of the above-named company by the creditors.

NOTICE IS ALSO HEREBY GIVEN that the creditors of the above-named Company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, on or before the 28 February 1994, to send in their full Christian and surnames, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned S V Frankley, of Bachler Phillips, 84 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9DF the Joint Liquidator of the said Company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Joint Liquidator, are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved. Dated 9 December 1993 Simon Vincent Frankley, Joint Liquidator.

PUBLIC NOTICES

ARCHER, PETER ARCHER late of Peckham, London SE15 died there on 11 June 1993. (Estate about £5,300)

BARRAND formerly TANSLEY nee BATES, EMILY BARRAND formerly TANSLEY nee BATES WIDOW late of Leeds, West Yorkshire died there on 27 September 1993. (Estate about £5,300)

BATEUP, EDMUND JAMES BATEUP otherwise EDWARD JAMES BATEUP late of Croydon, Surrey died at Tooting, London SW17 on 27 September 1992. (Estate about £35,000)

BROOKS, ALFRED GEORGE BROOKS late of Great Yarmouth, Norfolk died there on 28 March 1993. (Estate about £36,000)

BURNS, BARRIE BURNS late of East Dulwich, London SE22 died there on 27 January 1992. (Estate about £7,000)

BYRNE, MARY AGNES BYRNE SPINSTER late of El Albir, Jerez de la Frontera, Spain died there on 30 September 1971. (Estate about £2,000)

COOK, IVY LILIAN COOK SPINSTER late of Watford, Hertfordshire died there on 8 June 1992. (Estate about £9,000)

GREEN, MAURICE ROBERT GREEN otherwise MORRIS ROBERT GREEN late of Leamington Spa, Warwickshire died there on 7 January 1993. (Estate about £8,000)

HUNTER, EDWARD CHAPMAN ASHDOWN HUNTER late of Hornsey, London N8 died at Highgate, London N19 on 10 April 1993. (Estate about £7,000)

MANN, DESMOND RANDALL MANN late of Rothley, Leicestershire died there on 23 October 1992. (Estate about £150,000)

MANSI otherwise CUNNINGHAM, RITA CATHERINE ELIZABETH MANSI otherwise ELIZABETH MANSI otherwise ELIZABETH CUNNINGHAM SPINSTER late of Paddington, London W2 died there on 7 September 1991. (Estate about £7,740)

SCOTT formerly SIMPSON nee ROWLANDS, ENA EDITH SCOTT otherwise ENA SCOTT formerly SIMPSON nee ROWLANDS WIDOW late of Battersea, London SW11 died there on 28 December 1992. (Estate about £10,000)

SELNER, PHYLLIS LILIAN SELNER otherwise PHYLLIS SELNER SPINSTER late of Camden, London NW3 died there on 21 November 1992. (Estate about £8,000)

The kin of the above-named are requested to apply to the Treasury Solicitor (B.V.), Queen Anne's Chambers, 28 Broadway, London SW1H 9JS, failing which the Treasury Solicitor may take steps to administer the estate.



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Americans prosper in heated exchanges

FROM STUART JONES, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT IN MELBOURNE

CONDITIONS bordered on the intolerable until late in the afternoon yesterday at the Australian Open. Magnus Gustafsson remembered when it was hotter in Adelaide and MaliVai Washington recollected when it was windier in Wellington, but nobody could recall when there had been a worse combination of the two elements.

The first three men's quarter-finals consequently developed into fights for survival. They were each won by a gritty American — Pete Sampras, Jim Courier and Todd Martin. The exhibition of finesse came later, after the temperature had dropped, within an hour, from 41°C to a mere 18°C, when Stefan Edberg excelled.

By then, the championship was already assured of a semi-final to savour. Sampras, the top seed, is to tangle tomorrow with a familiar adversary, Courier, the holder. As in the Wimbledon final last year, American sentiments will be divided between the present and the past world No 1s.

Sampras was the favourite, but his recent form has been significantly erratic. Against Gustafsson, the tenth seed, he lost control of his serve, one of the most penetrative weapons in his armoury, and was credited with more double faults, 17, than aces, 13.

"From one end, with the wind blowing from behind, it was difficult to keep the ball in court," he explained, "and this is the hottest of the grand slam venues. The sun reflects off the court and into your face. It is like being in a sauna. You can't really breathe."

Gustafsson, advised to wear a cap, sported a curious version which resembled a knotted handkerchief. In order to keep his vision clear, he had cut off the peak. His sight of an improbable victory grew dimmer when he missed two points to take the opening set. He went out 7-6, 2-6, 6-3, 7-6.

Like Sampras, Courier was twice on the point of dropping the first set against the unpredictable fifth seed, Goran Ivanisevic. "You never know whether he is going to serve four aces or four double faults," Courier said. "He either comes alive or goes to sleep." The Croatian was more dozy than alert and was eliminated 7-6, 6-4, 6-2.

Sampras and Gustafsson made 98 unforced errors between them. Even that figure was surpassed on the comparatively exposed court one. The fiery zephyr played such havoc there that Martin felt as though he was trying to hit "knuckle balls", the most unpredictable delivery in baseball.

"It killed my serve," he reflected. "Most of the time the wind was blowing in one direction, but there were some weird moments when the ball just stopped and I was four feet away from where I was supposed to be." Nevertheless, he whisked Washington out in straight sets, 6-2, 7-6, 7-6.

His opponent in the semi-final, Edberg, was even more ruthless in the cool of the evening. The Swede put on a supreme demonstration of volleying against Thomas Muster, winning 6-2, 6-3, 6-4.

The aspirations of both British juniors had earlier disappeared in the second round. Jamie Delgado, the ninth seed, felt ill during his 6-4, 6-1 defeat against Alien Belobrajdic and Liz Jelfs fared no better, going out 6-1, 6-3 to the sixth seed, Yvette Basting.

RESULTS

MEN'S SINGLES: Quarter-finals: P Sampras (US) M Gustafsson (Swe) 7-6, 2-6, 6-3, 7-6; T Martin (US) bt M Washington (US) 6-2, 7-5, 7-6; J Courier (US) bt G Ivanisevic (Cro) 7-6, 6-4, 6-2; S Edberg bt T Muster (Austria) 6-2, 6-3, 6-4.

MEN'S DOUBLES: Quarter-finals: J Apell and J Bjorkman (Swe) bt T Woodbridge and M Woodforde (Aus) 6-4, 6-2, 6-3.

WOMEN'S DOUBLES: Quarter-finals: P Shriver (US) and L Smylie (Aus) bt J Hetherington (Can) and S Stafford (US) 6-3, 6-2; P Fendick and M McGrath (US) bt A Grossman (US) and J Richardson (NZ) 6-2, 6-0; J Novotna (Cz) and A Sanchez Vicario (Sp) bt M J Fernandez (US) and Z Garrison-Jackson (US) 6-4, 6-4; G Fernandez (US) and N Zvereva (Belo) bt M Bollegraf (Holl) and D Graham (US) 6-1, 6-3.

MIXED DOUBLES: Quarter-finals: P Haarhuis (Holl) and N Medvedeva (Ukr) bt D Randall (US) and J Hetherington (Can) 7-6, 6-3; T Woodbridge (Aus) and H Sukova (Cz) bt S Stolle (Aus) and M J Fernandez (US) 6-4, 3-6, 6-3; E Sanchez and A Sanchez Vicario (Sp) bt M Woodforde and R Stubbs (Aus) 6-4, 6-2.

BOYS' SINGLES: Second round: Selected: A Belobrajdic (Aus) bt J Delgado (GB) 6-4, 6-1.

GIRLS' SINGLES: Third round: Selected: Y Basting (Holl) bt E Jelfs (GB) 6-1, 6-3.

BOYS' DOUBLES: First round: Selected: J Delgado (GB) and R Kukal (Slovakia) bt C Cwich (Aus) and A Raturandang (Indo) 6-3, 7-6.

Green baize confrontation in NW 1

Albert Dormer sets the scene for a classic showdown recalling one of cinema's most gripping game of cards



Besse, left, a noted theorist on the game, Sharif and Ortiz-Patino, leading lights in the obsessed world of bridge, in London this week

Steve McQueen, the rising poker player in *The Cincinnati Kid*, found to his cost that the grizzled professional can sometimes summon up a surprising reserve of physical and nervous energy when his supremacy is threatened.

One of the world's more interesting bridge contests, the Macallan invitation pairs, got under way in London last night. It features a similar confrontation. Instead of Lancey Howard, played by Edward G Robinson (who in real life was an avid bridge player), read the partnership headed by Robert Hamman, 55, of Dallas. He has been the World Bridge Federation's (WBF) top grandmaster for many years.

For the Cincinnati Kid, who targetted Lancey, read another American, Jeff Meckstroth. His partnership with Eric Rodwell is ranked immediately below that of Hamman. "Meckwell", as they are known, are in their thirties and they have Hamman in their sights.

Piquancy is added by the last-minute withdrawal of Bobby Wolff, Hamman's regular partner and his replacement by Pakistan's Zia Mahmood, one of the world's most mercurial performers.

Bridge, like poker, is eyeball to eyeball and can have the same elemental quality, even though it is more subtle. The London tournament, one of the most important of its kind, focuses attention on Hamman and Meckstroth, although victory for either in the hand-picked field of mainly overseas experts is no foregone conclusion.

The vibes that emanate from a bridge pairing are often generated by one member. Hamman and Meckstroth have certain qualities in common. Hamman learned bridge at college in California, becoming so obsessed that he took five years to complete his sophomore year.

He won his first major tournament at the age of 23 and became a professional a few years later when the Texas millionaire, Ira Corn, signed him for the Aces squad. His record since then surpasses that of all other players.

For Hamman, bridge is the finest of sports, partly because of its scope for interaction with opponents. He has a poor opinion of disciplines that lack the element of confrontation. "Sports like diving and gymnastics are decided by judges, not on the field," he says. "In bridge you can interact with your opponent and affect their performance. You are butting heads to see who's toughest. I love it."

And Hamman *does* affect his opponents' performance — so much so that many have wondered how much of his success is owed to the adroit, though ethical, use he makes of his intimidating presence rather than to bridge expertise.

The question was well settled by the 1990 world individual championship, a computer-controlled test in problem-solving. Hamman did not win the gold medal, but he was bested only by Benito Garozzo in the great Italian player's career-capping performance. Moxie [an American slang word for courage or nerve] does not impress computers.

Meckstroth's competitive drive had been noted by his family long before he took up bridge at 14 for no other reason than to outdo his elder brother. Four years later he was named America's King of Bridge — best of the nation's high school players. Then he met Rodwell and they helped to win the Bermuda Bowl for the United States, the youngest pair to do so.

Their bidding methods, like Meckstroth himself, are aggressive, leaning heavily on detailed conventions. Older players — and Hamman is no exception — are often reluctant to study complicated systems. Systemic complexity can therefore be a useful weapon in the hands of the young, whose memories are dewy fresh.

Meckstroth also knows the value of being able to block out distractions. "I can check all my mental baggage at the door and be ready to play a good hard game," he says.

"Jeff is a player of extreme intensity," Hamman allows. "He's there to squash you — a tough, hard-nosed competitor".

Essential to continued survival at this level is the retention of the hunger to win. This could not be better exemplified than by the host and guests at an eve-of-the-tournament dinner given by Jean Besse, the veteran Swiss player and theorist, to celebrate both his eightieth birthday and the anniversary of the contest, founded 30 years ago.

Besse possesses other assets besides what has been conceded to be the best bridge brain in Europe. Behind the mask of an unworldly professor, he deploys a talent to annoy: a Socratic irony that sounds to everyone but the victim like mere pleasantry, but has the capacity to get deeply under the skin.

Once, when Besse made a rare error, his opponents, two Norwegians, produced a bottle of Aquavit and before a stunned audience loudly toasted each other. Bridge is a game when even the most restrained form of triumphalism is considered not quite the thing. But years earlier the Norwegians had been the victims of a classic Besse putdown. They had secretly toted the bottle around since.

One of Besse's guests, Jaime Ortiz-Patino, retains an unalloyed competitiveness that has taken him from Formula One motor racing in his youth to his position as president, owner and head greenkeeper of the Valderrama golf club in Spain, an official candidate for the 1997 Ryder Cup. He was a team colleague of Besse in top-class contests and completed a successful turn as president of the WBF, which he still serves as president emeritus. All this, and more, was combined with a whirlwind business career.

"In the course of my life," Ortiz-Patino says, "I have encountered many highly-competitive persons, but bridge experts beat the lot."

Another of Besse's guests, Omar Sharif, who is playing in the tournament, has over the years convinced his supporters that bridge must be a sexy game. He confides that he still feels the adrenalin flow when he faces the cameras — but still more when he sits down at the bridge table.

Sharif once played football for Egypt against Pelé's Brazil and Hungary, before bridge became his obsession. His full and varied career fills out the picture of the indestructible lifelong competitor that is the modern bridge expert.

With his partner, Paul Chemla, whose *bons mots* are famous and deadly, Sharif will attract by far the largest gallery — spectators are welcome — which is always guaranteed to bring out the best in a bridge expert.

So, will experience and guile win out over technique and vigour? The tournament, at the White House Hotel, NW 1, will show us.

Occasion for the unorthodox

THE brass band at the airport played the theme from *Dr Zhivago*. The Omar Sharif Bridge Circus was in Dallas to challenge the Aces. Sharif's team of top European players won narrowly, but a hand from the match haunts him still (Albert Dormer writes).

Sharif held the West cards. Before looking at the diagram, cover up the other three hands and put yourself in his position. His problem was to find the best lead against the slam. The clues were all there.

East's bid of one heart was normal and South's double was informatory. North's bid of two hearts, the enemy suit, showed a strong hand and invited South to name the trump suit. Four no trumps was Blackwood and five clubs denied an ace.

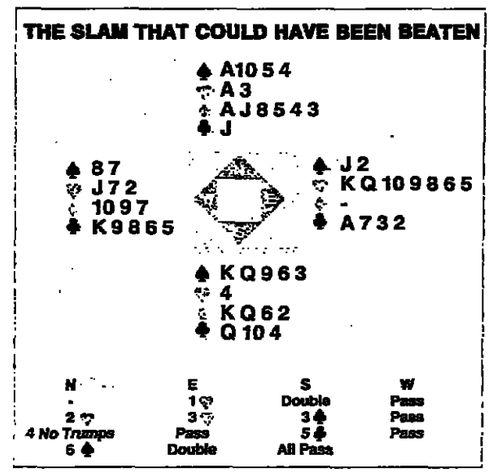
East's double of six spades was the well-known Lightner Slam Double, requesting an "unusual" lead. The message was: "Do not lead my suit. Do not lead a trump. Lead one of the other suits. We can beat the slam if you lead the right one." Sharif realised that East must be void of either clubs or diamonds. He must be hoping to ruff the opening lead and cash an ace to defeat the slam.

Sharif reasoned that as he himself held five cards in clubs and only three in diamonds, East was mathematically more likely to be void in clubs. So he led a low club. But this proved to be the wrong suit and after East had won with the ace, South had 12 tricks on any return.

Had West led a diamond, East would have ruffed and cashed the ace of clubs to beat the contract. At the other table, Bobby Wolff, for the Aces, faced a similar problem and he too led a club, so again the slam was made.

To lead an unsupported king in this situation is unorthodox in the extreme. But lateral thinking can sometimes provide unexpected solutions. "Leading the king of clubs is easy," Sharif ruefully admitted. "All you have to do is think of it!"

THE SLAM THAT COULD HAVE BEEN BEATEN



N	E	S	W
-	1♡	Double	Pass
2♡	3♡	3♠	Pass
4 No Trumps	Pass	5♣	Pass
6♠	Double	All Pass	

THE TIMES

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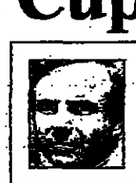
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World Cup plot set to thicken



DAVID HANDS
Rugby Commentary

IF — and where the Rugby World Cup (RWC) is concerned it is a substantial if — all goes to plan, we are due for an instructive few days in the life of the 1995 tournament. Details of rescheduled venues in South Africa are due to be unveiled early next week while this weekend two of the three leading southern-hemisphere players meet in Australia.

Leo Williams, the incoming chairman of the Australian Rugby Union, will have a spellbound audience when officials from his country and New Zealand assemble in Sydney on Saturday for their regular exchange of views. Williams, whose acute legal brain will make him a formidable addition to the RWC board of directors, is bound to be asked to shed light on the contretemps this month between the RWC and Louis Luyt, the chairman of the South African organising committee.

Little has been heard of Dr Luyt since his return to Johannesburg from Paris where, ostensibly, he and the RWC directors kissed and made up 11 days ago. Apart, that is, from a television interview during which Luyt accused colleagues on the South African Rugby Football Union (Sarfu), whose interests he represents, of stabbing him in the back. All of which should make for a combustible build-up to the election on March 11 of a new Sarfu president, which is seen as a straight contest between Luyt and the incumbent, Ebrahim Patel.

It is a situation fraught with problems. Party politicking in South African rugby for the next month is just a fact of life historically, but this time it impinges directly on an international sporting event which could do so much for the country's worldwide image and has longer-term implications should South Africa present itself as a potential host for the Olympic Games in 2004. Just to add to the fun, the Southern Hemisphere Rugby Alliance (Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and Argentina) are due to hold their annual conference in Johannesburg within the next month. All this at a time when South Africa is preparing in April for its first democratic elections.

> 'Party politicking in South African rugby for the next month is a fact of life historically'

It was clear from what the RWC directors said earlier this month that there is a philosophical void between their aspirations and those of the man on the ground, Luyt.

The RWC seeks, in its own words, to take the game to the nation and beyond: Luyt's motivation for changing previously agreed formulae appears broadly financial and typical of the Afrikaner approach. Luyt's suggestion was to stage all the World Cup matches at the six international venues rather than at 14 grounds across the country. One justification presented for this was security. It seems not to have crossed the collective mind of his organising committee that, by withdrawing into six laagers, the security problem is emphasised, particularly since one of those laagers is Johannesburg, the most dangerous city in the country.

Williams says that Luyt's main suggested changes had been to raise ticket prices and put together a series of double-headers. Luyt, as a major shareholder in the company which runs Ellis Park Stadium, has an interest in putting on as many games as possible there, no matter how pure his motives in wishing to do so.

However, the other southern-hemisphere powers may also take the opportunity during February to assert themselves should they feel that World Cup 1995 is becoming too much of a one-man band.

We are likely to hear next week of a compromise — that the number of venues has been reduced to nine or ten. In the meantime, the RWC have had the opportunity to pore over replies from 11 countries whom they invited to present alternative plans if the tournament has to be moved from South Africa. Three — Canada, Italy and Argentina — have declined consideration while most of the others have qualified their responses.

England, for example, would prefer to offer themselves as hosts in 1999 rather than next year. Since the Rugby Football Union intend to continue the restructuring of Twickenham, they would be hard-pressed to have the West Stand ready even for the autumn of 1995.

Marcel Martin, the French RWC director, says it is merely an insurance policy: "Like having a spare wheel in a car, you hope you never have to use it but you are glad it is there." How Martin and his colleagues must hope that there is no puncture of their aspirations in South Africa.

Jones offers spark of late inspiration

Oxford University 15
Royal Air Force 14

BY DAVID HANDS

A MATCH devoid of atmosphere at Iffley Road yesterday was turned on its head in the final quarter. For an hour, Oxford University seemed to have little motivation until the addition to their ranks of Clive Jones.

Jones is the third-choice scrum half behind du Toit and Baber and only appeared when Baber left with a nasty head cut, which required 14 stitches. However, he quickly injected a sense of urgency, racing down the blind side to score Oxford's first points and convince his colleagues the game could be won.

So it was that all of Oxford's points came in the last 18 minutes. Moreover, Mermagen, a villain after missing four penalties, became the hero when he banged over a 46-metre penalty goal and then converted Bremnand's try to edge the university ahead.

Worrall, recalled by the airmen, paved the way for his side's first try, scored by Roke. Hopkins hit an upright with his conversion attempt, but redeemed himself with three penalty goals.

Since they dominated the lineouts and presented a reasonably tight defence, there seemed little way for the RAF to lose a 14-0 lead. The arrival of Jones, however, exposed their defence close to a maul and the scrum half's link with Ritchie and Freer led to Mermagen's first successful penalty goal.

Seven minutes remained when Brennand charged down Cooke's clearance deep in the RAF 22 and the Oxford centre scooted after the rolling ball to touch down just before the dead-ball line.

SCORERS: Oxford University: Tries: Jones, Brennand. Conversion: Mermagen. Penalty goal: Mermagen. RAF: Try: Roke. Penalty goals: Hopkins (3).

OXFORD UNIVERSITY: G Allison (St Paul's and Templeton), R Wintle (Cymric CS and University), J Brennand (Merchant Taylors, Crosby and St Anne's), M Mermagen (St Bartholomew's, Newbury and Keble), J Bursell (Millfield and New), E Rayner (Dauntsey's and Oriel), G Baber (Llanelhen HS and Keble); G Hamp (St Olave's GS and Keble), D Henderson (Glenalmond and Keble), D Grant (Dollar Academy and Worcester), M Freer (Leeds GS and Brasenose), R Underhill (Lutterworth Upper and Green), R Paul (Harrow and Keble), A Bridgwood (Cheltenham and Keble), C Ritchie (KCS Wimbledon and Keble). Bursell replaced by J Dargie (Cheadle Hulme and Brasenose, 37mn), Baber replaced by C Jones (Easthampstead Park and University, 55).

RAF: Cpl S Roke, Cpl D Morgan, SAC G Sharp, Sgt M Cooke, SAC S Crossland, Cpl I Hopkins, Spt S Worrall, Cpl S Carbutt, Flt Lt R Miller, Cpl D Breed, Cpl S Pennegar, SAC P Taylor, Sgt B Richardson, FO D Watkins, Cpl D Parsonage.

Referee: K Morgan (Eastern Counties).

☐ Gareth Rees, the Canada stand-off who played for Oxford in the University match last December after kicking Wales to defeat at Cardiff Arms Park, is to join Newport for the rest of the season.

Jolly Scot on line for major success

FROM JOHN HOPKINS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT, IN DUBAI

GREG Norman, the Open champion, spends several hours exercising each day and Bernhard Langer, the United States Masters champion, not much less. But Colin Montgomerie, all lóst of him, is comfortable with himself and plans to do exactly the same in 1994 as he did in previous years.

"I may be overweight but I am fit," Montgomerie, the leading player in Europe last year, said. "I have got good stamina, have been this weight for some years and it has been okay so far. Why change?" With this show of defiance, on the eve of the Dubai Desert Classic here, Montgomerie got the 1994 season well and truly underway at the Emirates golf club in the Gulf. It might be the



Montgomerie: relaxed

third tournament of the year, but it was more like the first day back at school as the class of '94 assembled.

Greetings were shouted across the putting green, plans for the coming season compared. There was an air of bonhomie that will not be present in mid-season when thousands of miles have been travelled and everyone is tiring of one another.

Montgomerie caught the jolly mood perfectly. He looked relaxed and was cheerful, talkative and articulate, as he can be but not always is. It is an important season for him, in which he will try and improve on his record year that ended in style when he won the Volvo Masters and £250,000 in November.

"I've had a good run these past seven years," he said. "Now, my sights are on major championships. I want to be up there in the top ten in major championships, not just coming from behind."

Montgomerie played in a nine-hole challenge at the Dubai Creek course on Tuesday. He, like Langer, Fred Couples and Isao Aoki, were blitzed by Norman who, in short order, arrived in Dubai aboard his private plane, was driven to his hotel, took a helicopter to the course, attended a half-hour reception, had 15 minutes practice and then played nine holes in 31 strokes. "I was very impressed with him," Montgomerie said.

He does not intend to follow Norman's daily routine of working-out for several hours with a medicine ball and weights under the supervision of a full-time trainer. Langer also spends an hour each morning and evening doing stretching exercises, a routine he began after injuring his back in 1988.

Montgomerie, 30, has youth on his side. He has nearly nine years on Norman, 39 next month, and six on Langer, 37 in August. Also, Montgomerie has always done things his own way. He scarcely practises whereas Langer rarely practises for less than a couple of hours each day.

After improving his standing in the Order of Merit every year since he turned professional, Montgomerie has impressive evidence for saying "I must be doing something right". He has, however, turned to a sports psychologist, Hugh Mantel, from the John Moores University in Liverpool, for help with his attitude.

Montgomerie started to see Mantel 18 months ago, but it was only in mid-summer last year that he began working with him regularly. It was a bad time for him. He had finished way down the field in the Scottish Open and missed the cut in the Open. He did not want to go to Holland for the Dutch Open the next week but Mantel made him do so. Montgomerie won the tournament and then had a cracking second half to the season. "Hugh has helped me a lot," he said.

Brown happiest as a Wanderer

Peter Ball talks to a former electrician who aims to hand Arsenal a fourth-round shock



Brown relishes a captaincy role at Bolton. Photograph: Barry Greenwood

Glamour is relative. When Arsenal's players arrive at the Burnden Park mudheap for a FA Cup fourth-round tie on Monday, they will wonder what they have come to. For Phil Brown, the Wanderers' right back and captain, Bolton represents the pinnacle of his football life so far after a career previously spent at Hartlepool and Halifax.

"My first season at Bolton was one of the best of my career as a player," he said, "because I was on such a high at coming to a bigger club." A lively Geordie, who rejoices in the nickname Swinger after the tag "the oldest swinger in town" was bestowed on him, Brown learnt early about the limits of glamour. When you have been given a free transfer by Hartlepool, delusions of grandeur are in short supply and his learning curve had begun even before that.

FA CUP

At 23, he found himself as Hartlepool's union delegate leading a dispute as the team went five weeks without pay. "When I went from being an electician into professional football, I never expected that," Brown, now 36, recalled. "As an electrician, your wages arrived every week and I never thought that would be a problem in football."

The threat of a strike proved enough. The players got their money and Brown gained early experience in leadership, soon becoming the club captain before his move to Halifax, where he began to make a name for himself. "That was where I learned about throwing cups of tea as a management technique," he said.

Yet, under Billy Ayres, he also earned a reputation as an attacking full back, the respect of his peers winning him a place in the Professional Footballers' Association fourth division select team in 1988, a feat he was to repeat for three consecutive years at Bolton in a higher division. At Halifax, he also broke the record for the number of goals scored by a full back, scoring 14 in one season. The previous record, 12, was held by Phil Neal, then the Bolton manager.

"I don't know if that was why he signed me," Brown said, "but I did play against him once and spent most of the game on the attack, so perhaps that's what did it."

A late entrant to the professional game, playing for a pub side called Red Duster and Hartlepool reserves as a non-contract player while doing his apprenticeship as an electrician, the move to Bolton has helped him become one of the best full backs around, especially since the arrival of Bruce Rioch as manager.

"He has added a new dimension to my game," Brown said. "He has made me think more about it, he encouraged me to go on the full coaching badge course and it has made me look at the game a lot more deeply."

Rioch has also increased Brown's responsibility as captain, leaving him to organise the players' work in the community. Brown lives in Bolton, something Rioch encourages, and feels the buzz the club's revival has brought the town. At the weekend, as queues for tickets for the Arsenal game stretched across the club forecourt, the players served the queueing fans with tea.

"Everybody rated Bolton as a sleeping giant when I came and it is nice to play a part in putting it back on the map," Brown added. He is now approaching 600 League games, with two Wembley appearances and promotion to the new Endsleigh Insurance League first division since passing his thirtieth birthday.

In the last year, he has also enjoyed the rare experience of away FA Cup victories at Anfield a year ago and at Everton last week. "Everybody had written us off at Everton when we went 2-0 down and to come back like that against a Premier League side just about summed us up," he said. "Whatever 11 players we have out there, everybody battles for everyone else and we play as much football as we can." Arsenal have been warned.

Cool Cowboys advertise superb image of success

FROM OLIVER HOLT IN ATLANTA

THE demoniacal face of the film actor, Dennis Hopper, fills the television screen. He is talking about Super Bowl XXVIII, the championship game of the National Football League (NFL), eyes wild, speech clipped and fast, Georgia on his mind. The patrons in the sports bars here whoop and yell every time the advertisement appears.

"You people think this is a game," he sneers at the camera. "Marbles is a game." The commercial is apposite. This is more than a game and the players have risen above the status of mere competitors. They jockey with Hopper for air-time, their success measured as much by the coolness and prominence of their ads as by their feats on the field.

The Dallas Cowboys are way ahead of their Super Bowl rivals, the Buffalo Bills. They are America's Team, after all, the Manchester United of American football, young, fresh and untainted by the hat-trick of Super Bowl failures that dog the Bills.

When it costs $900,000 (about £600,000) for a 30-second television advertisement during the Super Bowl, which will be played on Sunday, image is everything. Right now, despite their fourth successive appearance in the big game, the Bills look like losers.

Of the Buffalo lineup, only the fearsome defensive end, Bruce Smith, appears regularly on television and he does not utter a word in his commercial. By contrast, the Dallas quarterback and golden boy, Troy Aikman, the running back, Emmitt Smith, and the huge guard, Nate Newton, are monopolising the sportswear market.

They know how to conduct themselves during Super Bowl week as well, comfortable in the spotlight. The Bills, perhaps understandably in the face of persistent questioning about their lack of nerve on the big occasion, appear somewhat truculent.

Within 20 minutes of arriving at their hotel here on Monday after a flight from Dallas, a photo session at the Atlanta airport and a coach journey, Emmitt Smith, Newton and Aikman, who is still recovering from mild concussion sustained on Sunday in a win over the San Francisco 49ers, were seated in the lobby, blinking back television lights, answering questions over and over as reporters flitted from one to another.

Smith, dapper and dripping with jewelery, was patience personified. He told good stories, too. Like the time he hit his head hard against an opponent's leg during a high school game, got the ball on the next play, went blind in mid-stride because of the injury but scored a touchdown by clutching the shirt of the receiver ahead of him.

Not big but bursting with power, Smith is the nemesis of the Bills. He rushed for 108 yards and a touchdown during the Cowboys' 52-17 victory in the Super Bowl last year, and, despite a nagging shoulder injury, scored two touchdowns against the 49ers in the conference final on Sunday. He led the league in rushing for the third consecutive season.



The Bills beat the Cowboys in the second game of the season, but Smith was absent because of a contract dispute, denying Buffalo psychological solace this week. He played his part in the talk show to perfection, too, promoting a game that everybody assumes the Cowboys will comfortably dominate.

"The experts who are saying we are going to pound them again are the same ones who said I was too small, too slow and too fat," he said. "Last year means nothing. Buffalo gave us nine turnovers but they have learnt from their mistakes.

"There is no way that is going to happen again and without that element the game is bound to be much closer.

"The Bills are not going to be a cakewalk. They are not a sorry ball club. They did not make it to four consecutive Super Bowls by being sorry. You can believe all you want about us running all over Buffalo, but until the game starts, believe don't mean nothing."

FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Orlando 112 Washington 89; Miami 119 Charlotte 96; New York 99 Phoenix 86; Atlanta 95 Milwaukee 90; Houston 96 Cleveland 93; San Antonio 107 Sacramento 91; Los Angeles Clippers 111 Seattle 103; Portland 122 New Jersey 117.

CYCLING

STUTTGART, Germany: Six-day race: Leading standings (after fifth night): 1, E de Wilde (Bel) and J Veggerby (Den); 5, P Bincoletto (It) and A Doyle (GB) six laps behind.

FOOTBALL

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: Second division: Bournemouth 5 Hereford United 2.

Late results on Tuesday

FA CUP: Third round, replay: Liverpool 0 Bristol City 1 (Bristol City away to Stockport County in fourth round)

ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE LEAGUE: Third division: Carlisle United 1 Bury 2; Chesterfield 1 Doncaster Rovers 1; Darlington 0 Wigan Athletic 0; Wycombe Wanderers 1 Mansfield Town 0.

SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Motherwell 3 Raith Rovers 1; St Johnstone 1 Dundee United 1. First division: Dunfermline Athletic 0 Airdrieonians 0; St Mirren 3 Ayr United 1. Second division: Albion Rovers 3 Montrose 4; East Fife 1 Stranraer 1; Stenhousemuir 1 Meadowbank Thistle 1

FA TROPHY: First round replays: Bath 4 Yeovil 0; Bromsgrove 2 Waterlooville 1; Grays 2 Farnborough 0; Macclesfield 1 Boston Utd 0; Southport 3 Marine 1, Warrington 2 Gretna 3.

FA YOUTH CUP: Manchester City 0 Norwich 2.

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: First division: Queens Park Rangers 2 Tottenham 1; Bristol Rovers 0 Crystal Palace 0; Watford 5 Norwich 2. Second division: Birmingham 2 Cardiff 1.

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Coventry 3 York 0; Sheffield Wednesday 3 Sheffield United 2; Manchester United 1 Wolverhampton Wanderers 0. Second division: Rotherham 3 Port Vale 0.

ALLBRIGHT BITTER WELSH CUP: Fifth round: Swansea 1 Hereford 0.

BASS IRISH CUP: Fifth round, replays: Cliftonville 1 Ballyclare 0.

ITALIAN CUP: Quarter-final, second leg: Torino 2 Piacenza 1 (agg: 4-3).

SPANISH CUP: Quarter-final, first leg: Tenerife 2 Real Madrid 1.

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Carnck 3 Crusaders 2.

BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Premier division: Group B: St Patrick's 1 Limerick 0

DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: Yeading 3 Basingstoke 1. First division: Whyteleafe 3 Staines 3. Second division: Metropolitan Police 1 Witham 1. Third division: Chesham 0 Bracknell 0. League Cup: Fourth round: Chertsey 5 St Albans 0; Enfield 3 Saffron Walden 1; Kingstonian 0 Carshalton 1. Carlsberg Cup: Second round: Dulwich 2 Walton and H 0; Billericay 1 Bishop's Stortford 2. Carlsberg Trophy: Second round: Aldershot 2 Malden Vale 0; Hampton 1 Leatherhead 0 (abandoned at half-time)

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Midland division: Armitage 2 Bridgnorth 7; Hinckley 0 Redditch 2.

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: First division: Goole 1 Guiseley 2.

CARLING NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: Tennent's Floodlit Trophy: Burscough 3 Flixton 0.

CRESTA RUN

ST MORITZ: The Maraden Cup: 1, M Melcher (Switz) 172.28; 2 M Pesch (Switz), 177.23; 3, C J Gowers (GB), 183.57; 4, D P Willshire (GB), 183 77; 5, A C Osborne (GB), 183 98; 6, R D Andrews (GB), 184.81

HOCKEY

CLUB MATCH: RAF 4, Cambridge University 0 (at Reading).

ICE HOCKEY

TORONTO: International match: Canada 4, United States 5.

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Pittsburgh 4 Ottawa 2; Quebec 6 Philadelphia 4; Boston 3 Washington 1, Chicago 5 Detroit 0; St Louis 3 Vancouver 3, New York Rangers 8 San Jose 3. Winnipeg 4 Los Angeles 4.

BRITISH ASSOCIATION: Premier League: Nottingham 7 Basingstoke 4; Murrayfield 11 Whitley 6.

MOTOR RALLYING

MONTE CARLO RALLY: Thirteenth stage (Col de la Sautee to Rosans, 31.24km): 1, F Delecour (Fr), Ford Escort, 19min 43sec; 2, C McRae (Scot), Subaru Impreza, 4sec behind; 3, A Schwarz (Ger), Mitsubishi Lancer, 8, 4, K Eriksson (Swe), Mitsubishi Lancer, 24, 5, J Kankkunen (Fin), Toyota Celica 25. Fourteenth stage (L'Aubergerie to Laboral, 26.11km), 1, Schwarz 18min 31sec; 2, McRae 7sec behind; 3, Delecour 14; 4, B Thiry (Bel), Ford Escon 20; 5, Kankkunen 21. Fifteenth stage (Sisteron to Thoard, 36.8km): 1, McRae 28min 27sec; 2, C Sainz (Sp), Subaru Impreza 9sec behind; 3, Schwarz 54; 4, Eriksson 58; 5, Delecour 1:03. Sixteenth stage: (Malijai to Pulmichiel, 12.32km). 1, Schwarz 7min 44sec; 2, McRae 1sec behind; equal 3, Delecour, Sainz and Kankkunen 5. Overall standings: 1, Delecour 4hr 49mn 15sec; 2, Kankkunen 1min 33sec behind; 3, Sainz 2:04; 4, Basson (It), Ford Escort, 4:27; 5, Thiry 6.09

RACKETS

NEW YORK: US Open championship (all GB): Semi-finals: N Smith bt R Owen-Browne 15-6, 15-4, 15-8; P Brake bt M Hue Williams 8-15, 12-15, 15-12, 15-10, 15-8. Final: Smith bt Brake 15-6, 4-15, 15-7, 15-4.

RUGBY UNION

CLUB MATCHES: Army 30 Hampshire 16; Cambridge University 6 Royal Navy 29; Oxford University 16 RAF 14; Ebbw Vale 10 Pontypridd 19, Blackwood 21 Abertillery 5

SKIING

TIGNES: British Land British championships: Super-giant slaloms: Cancelled.

SNOOKER

BLACKPOOL: Thailand Open (England unless stated): Final qualifying round: S Judd bt D Roe 5-1; P Ebdon bt M Williams (Wales) 5-1, D Finbow bt D Mountjoy (Wales) 5-0, A Knowles bt B Rowswell 5-2, A Jones bt R Lawler 5-4; C Morton bt J Johnson 5-1; D O'Kane (NZ) bt S O'Connor (Ire) 5-2; M Price bt B Sneddon (Scot) 5-4.

BLACKPOOL: British Open (England unless stated): Eighth qualifying round: P McPhillips (Scot) bt F Daz 5-3, S Whalley bt E Henderson (Scot) 5-1; K Payne bt D Clarke 5-0, C Small (Scot) bt S Ali 5-2; S Mazrocks bt J Shilton 5-3; S Reardon bt S MacFarlane (Scot) 5-3, M Flowerdew bt J Burnett (Scot) 5-1; D Walker bt P Browne (Ire) 5-0; N Mosley bt I Williamson 5-0; D Gilbert bt T Murphy (N Ire) 5-1; R Williams bt C Morton 5-3; J Higgins (Scot) bt I McCulloch 5-0, J Lardner (Scot) bt P Lines 5-1; M Couch bt D McDonnell 5-2, F O'Brien (Ire) bt M Campbell (Scot) 5-0; D Dale (Wales) bt N Dyson 5-4.

TABLE TENNIS

HYDERABAD, India: Commonwealth championships: Men: Teams: Group A: England walkover Uganda; Singapore 5 Scotland 3; England 5 Scotland 0. Group B: Australia 5 Hong Kong 3; Canada 5 Hong Kong 1; Australia 5 New Zealand 0. Group C: Mauritius walkover Nigeria; Malaysia walkover Nigeria. Group D: India 5 Cyprus 0; Northern Ireland walkover Tanzania. Second stage: England 5 Mauritius 0. Women: Teams: Group A: New Zealand walkover Nigeria, Hong Kong walkover Tanzania; Hong Kong 3 New Zealand 0. Group B: Scotland walkover Uganda; England walkover Uganda. England 3 Scotland 0. Group C: Malaysia 3 Northern Ireland 0; Canada 3 Northern Ireland 0. Group D: India 3 Singapore 2; Australia 3 Singapore 2.

YACHTING

PERTH: Australia Cup: Standings (after second day of five): 1, R Davis (Aus) 10 wins, 2 defeats; 2 equal, R Hainar (Holl), B Pace (Fr), T Peponnet (Fr) and G Lucas (Aus) 7, 5; 6 equal, M Hozmberg (Swe) and N Wibey (Aus) 6, 7, 8 equal, C Law (Eng), S Lissman (Aus) and M Wieser (Ger) 4, 8

WHITBREAD ROUND THE WORLD RACE: Third stage (Fremantle to Auckland): Whitbread 60 class: Last finisher: 10, Odessa (A Verba, Ukr) 16 days 21hr 7min

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FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

BASS IRISH CUP: Fifth round replay: Ballinamallard v Moyola (2.30).

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE (7.0): First division: Nottingham Forest v Notts County. Second division: Bradford v Oldham; Stoke v Preston.

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: First division: Norwich v Portsmouth (7.30).

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Southern division: Havant v Erith and Belvedere (7.30).

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: European men's club championship: Limoges (Fr) v Guildford.

SKIING: British Land British national championships, giant slaloms (Tignes).

SPORTS LETTERS

International judges skate on thin ice

From Mr Stuart Blake

Sir, After the controversy in the European ice dance championships, the skating authorities must revise their ill-thought out system of awarding placement points. The result of any sporting event should reflect who performed best in that particular competition.

In Copenhagen, Torvill and Dean were deemed to have skated better in the free programme than Usova and Zhulin and thereby won overall. This came about as a result of the performance of Gritschuk and Platov. If however, Gritschuk and Platov had been absent, Usova and Zhulin would have been deemed to have performed better in the free programme and, in this instance, they would have won overall, in spite of their respective individual performances being the same.

If the international authorities fail to bring about change in the marking system, similar contradictions will recur.

Would the best, simplest and fairest system not be to add up the technical merit and artistic impression marks. These could be multiplied by a factor of 0.2 for each of the compulsory dances, 0.6 for the short programme and 1.0 for the free programme. This would allow for the same weighting of the components of the ice dance competition as is now the case with the system of placement points.

Similar systems could be adopted for men's, women's and pairs competitions. It would also allow for the top and bottom mark of each set for technical merit and artistic impression to be discarded if this was thought desirable to overcome possible allegations of bias by judges. Such a system of discarding scores operates in other sports. Surely a system such as this would be welcomed by competitors and spectators alike?

Yours faithfully,
STUART J BLAKE,
9, Glenfield Place,
Workington, Cumbria.

Out of touch

From Mr David Kerrigan

Sir, Either Simon Barnes is out of touch or I am (report, January 25). Laying aside the fact that any player using Graham Taylor's language on the pitch or sideline would be charged with bringing the game into disrepute, the portrayal of Taylor on Channel 4 did not primarily help us to understand the pressures on the England manager.

Instead, it helped us to see how far below standards of common decency the people responsible for the England shirt have fallen.

Taylor's language does matter; it was a sign of a man who gave his players no standards to aim for and who had no inner resources upon which to draw when their backs were against the wall. At Taylor's right hand was Phil Neal, who seemed incapable of saying anything that deferred from Taylor's colourful opinions.

The low point of recent years was not England's failure to qualify for the World Cup — it was the Channel 4 documentary.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID KERRIGAN,
106, Sweetbrier Lane,
Exeter, Devon.

Rugby's duty

From the High Master of St Paul's School

Sir, Mr G Miller's letter (January 20), significantly on the same day as an account of a Scottish solicitor reporting an on-the-pitch incident to the South Wales constabulary, prompts some reflections on the state of rugby football.

Whatever the immediate decisions of the French officials, whatever the contrast in style with Jim Fleming, the Scottish referee, in Paris, it is essential, when the five nations' championship has such massive television coverage, that the players, with their coaches and management, accept responsibility for their actions. If acts of violence like those perpetrated most obviously by the Welsh hooker — but also by other players involved in both matches — are not condemned, there can be no good reason for parents to support the continued existence of the game in schools.

Properly coached, sensitively refereed and given truly sporting attitudes, rugby football remains a game that provides scope for ball-playing skills, physical fitness, speed, courage, team-work and swift decision-making. All those involved in coaching rugby here wish to see it continue to thrive. It is to be hoped that the Welsh Rugby Union has similar views and will act against Garin Jenkins.

Yours faithfully,
R S BALDOCK,
St Paul's School,
Barnes, SW13

Orientational bias

From the directors of Christians in Sport

Sir, Denise Annetts (report, January 18) is not the first sportsperson to find herself marginalised because of a publicly-voiced aversion to lesbianism. Homosexuality in women's sport does lead to bias in selection and often unhelpful peer pressure on youngsters. If women's sport is to get the attention it deserves, administrators must be above suspicion in this area. It must be demonstrated that selection will not be affected by sexual orientation.

Yours faithfully,
REV ANDREW WINGFIELD-DIGBY,
MRS JOY WILLIAMS,
Christians in Sport,
P O Box 93, Oxford.

Prosperity regained

From the Chief Executive of the National Ice Skating Association

Sir, Following criticism of Torvill and Dean's return to amateur skating (Sports Letters, January 20), I feel I should explain how their return greatly benefits British ice skating — and every skater competing in Britain.

The prevailing system to select international competitors means that Britain — having no couples ranked in the world top ten — can send only one couple (instead of two) to the European and world championships and Olympic Games.

However, should Torvill and Dean place in the top three in the world, then Britain will have three couples qualified for the 1995 world and European championships. Furthermore, higher world ranking in a discipline means a greater share in the world championship revenue distributed by the ISU (skating's world governing body) — revenue which we will use to promote the sport from the grass-roots level.

Additionally, the increased television coverage Torvill and Dean bring has both attracted more people to the sport and a new major sponsor. Furthermore, other support sponsors and advertisers have spread their investments to support our national skating programmes.

When 8,000 fans filled the Sheffield Arena to see the British championships, they witnessed not only the return of Torvill and Dean but what we hope will be the return of Britain to the forefront of international skating.

Yours faithfully,
HAIG OUNDJIAN,
15-27, Gee Street, EC1

Sports Letters may be sent by fax to 071-782 5046. They must include a daytime telephone number.

Answers from page 44

DAEDAL

(c) A maze or labyrinth, an anglicised form of the skilled artificer or fabricator *Daedalus*, whose name in Greek *daidalos* means skilful, cunningly wrought, variegated: Evelyn, *Acetaria*, 1699: "Groves, Labyrinths, Dedals, Close-Walks and other Relievo's of Topiary and Hortulan architecture."

EUNUCHRY

(b) The state of being a eunuch, from the Greek *eunē* a bed + *ochˉ* the ablaut stem of *echein* to keep or hold, the literal sense being thus a bedchamber guard or attendant: "M. Wallon says that these horns are a sign of eunuchry, but they are not so."

THEANDRIC

(c) Of or pertaining to both god and man, partaking of both the human and the divine, from the Greek *theos* a god + *anēr, andros* a male: "A class of heretics asserting that there was only one operation, Theandric or Godmanly."

TRILAPSE

(c) That has fallen for the third time into a sin or offence, also said of the offence, from the Latin *tri-* three + *lapsus* having fallen, a fall: from some Presbyterian records: "Declaring her to the session to be trilapse in fornication."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 Rh8+! wins the black queen after 1 ... Bxh8 2 Bb6+ Ke8 3 Qg8+ Ke7 4 Rxf7+.

ool Cowboy advertise superb image of success

New sponsorship for Doncaster classic

St Leger fortified by restructure of entry system

By Julian Muscat

THE Doncaster racecourse executive yesterday outlined a fresh entry structure for the St Leger in addition to the details of a corporate sponsorship worth £425,000 over three years. It was the best possible response to those clamouring for sweeping changes to the conditions of the world's oldest classic.

To be run on September 10, the TeleConnection St Leger Stakes will have added prize-money of £200,000 for the first time. Furthermore, the cost to owners with runners in the race has been reduced from £2,625 in 1993 to £2,500 this year. Entries for the classic, which closed six months before last year's renewal, will not now have to be made until June 22.

Doncaster's achievement in recruiting TeleConnection (UK) Ltd, whose first taste of race sponsorship this will be, comes at a time when the sport is struggling to attract commercial backing. It is both an exciting development and a feather in the cap of Internation Racecourse Management (IRM), which runs the racecourse on behalf of proprietors, Doncaster County Council.

IRM is also one of around 15 candidates to submit its intention to bid for the three-course package of Epsom, Sandown and Kempton, the Horserace Betting Levy Board-owned racecourses to be sold to the private sector. A list of the interested parties is expected to be published next week.

The merit of Doncaster's sponsorship deal with TeleConnection is evident when set against last week's announcement of Forte's backing of the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe at Longchamp. Forte will invest only an additional £25,000 over the corresponding three-year period.

Owners and trainers will welcome the initiative to put back the date of entry by 16 weeks until after Royal Ascot when they will have a better idea of their horse's ability. Last year, the connections of 104 horses each paid entry fees of £750 on March 3, for the three weeks before the start of the Flat Turf season. In addition, the May forfeit stage has been dropped so that owners will not encounter a forfeit stage until August 23.

The new entry structure is backed up by a reduction in cost for supplementary entries, which amounted to £25,000 last year. This time, the price has been set at £17,500, a saving of 30 per cent on top of the increase in added prize-money, from £175,000 to £200,000. IRM has targeted a figure of £250,000 in added *money for the 1996 renewal.*


Sanderson: milestone

Should that be achieved, the added value of the St. Leger will have increased by £100,000 in five years. This hardly creates the impression of an event in decline, as has been suggested by the race's detractors.

John Sanderson, chief executive and clerk of the course at Doncaster and a director of IRM, vowed to maintain the distance of the St Leger at one mile, six furlongs and 132 yards. He said of the increase in added money: "I am delighted that, as a result of the TeleConnection investment, we have been able to achieve that figure at the same time as a reduction in entry fees." Sanderson added that the total value of the race, which pays prize-money down to sixth place, would be determined by the level of cash input from owners.

TeleConnection (UK) Ltd has, in Godfrey Anderson, a chairman and chief executive with a lifelong passion for racing. A self-made businessman, the Jamaican-born Anderson's first experiences of employment on his moving to Britain came as a milkman, building site labourer and factory worker. He established TeleConnection (UK) Ltd plc in 1992.

Anderson, who backed a race in support of the Variety Club at Doncaster last October, said of the three-year package: "Racing has not been immune to recessionary pressures and I hope that the TeleConnection sponsorship will make a positive contribution to the future of the sport."

JULIAN HERBERT


Derrymore Boy and Guy Lewis jump the last fence impressively on their way to victory at Lingfield

Cabochon adds to Joseph's fine tally

By Richard Evans
Racing Correspondent

SOME racehorse owners wait a lifetime before entering the winner's enclosure — but not Jack Joseph. When Cabochon won the Adventure Novices' Chase at Lingfield yesterday the sprightly 74-year-old was enjoying his 167th success as an owner, and few will have been easier.

Cabochon, making his debut over fences, was eased down inside the final furlong to win by ten lengths and looks assured of further success. "That is the 167th, the second of the week and we should have another tomorrow," Joseph said.

He still remembers the day 35 years ago when he bought Royal Reprieve out of a seller at Stratford and was rewarded soon afterwards with his first win at Worcester. "The first 100 winners took 30 years to achieve but the second 100 is not taking so long," added the owner, who has 21 horses in training.

By contrast, Simon Sherwood is having little cause to visit the winner's circle at present. The East Ilsley trainer has gone three weeks without a winner and Midnight Caller never looked like obliging, despite being heavily backed and sent off a 5-4 favourite in the Felcourt Handicap Chase.

After becoming very tired at the top of the hill, Midnight Caller was pulled up by Jamie Osborne entering the straight. The horse was so distressed that the jockey dismounted before leading it back to the stands. At a subsequent stewards' enquiry, a routine dope test was ordered.

Master Oats ran out a convincing winner, despite carrying top weight of 12 stone, and may run in the Grand National if the ground is suitably soft. "He loves this ground. It was not soft enough for him at Wincanton last time," Tracey Bailey, wife of the trainer, said. "Kim has him entered for the Grand National and the Midlands National. Obviously it would have to be very soft, as the ground is important to him."

Docklands Express, also trained by Bailey, is likely to bypass the Timeform Hall of Fame Chase at Cheltenham on Saturday, along with Bradbury Star from Josh Gifford's yard. "I think I will wait for the Agfa Diamond Chase at Sandown. If the ground turns against us, then it will be the John Bull Chase at Wincanton," Gifford said.

Two races held in honour of Michael Seely

By Richard Evans

THE Nottinghamshire Novices' Chase will be run in memory of Michael Seely, the former racing correspondent of *The Times*, when it is staged at the Midlands course on February 19.

The Times, *Horse & Hound* and the *Nottingham Evening Post*, for whom Seely worked until shortly before his death last August, have contributed towards the £15,000 added prize-money for the prestigious Arkle Chase trial.

The Horserace Writers' Association has given a perpetual challenge trophy for the two-mile contest.

Charlie Moore, the clerk of the course at Nottingham, said yesterday: "The Nottinghamshire Novices' Chase was one of Mikey's favourite races at his local course. He attended last year, despite being very ill, to see Sybillin win."

Jimmy Fitzgerald has won the race four times in recent years, with Danish Flight, Phoenix Gold, Uncle Ernie and Sybillin, and is likely to field the favourite this year in the shape of Native Mission, unbeaten since switching to fences this season.

Michael Seely will have a second race run in his memory on the Flat at the York May meeting. The £10,000 Michael Seely Memorial Glasgow Conditions Stakes has been sponsored by friends.

The ten-furlong race, won last year by the eventual Derby winner, Commander In Chief, will carry the Seely name for a minimum of ten years.

THUNDERER

1.25 Devil's Sting. 1.55 Glen Cherry. 2.25 Deduce. 2.55 Taramoss. 3.25 Martha's Son. 3.55 SURCOAT (nap). 4.25 Mackabee.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 3.55 SURCOAT.

GOING: SOFT (HEAVY PATCHES ON HURDLES COURSE) SIS

1.25 OFFORD NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE
(£2,157: 2m 110yd) (17 runners)

101 2421 GALES CAVALIER 14 (D,S) (T Whitley) D Gandolfo 6-11-12 R Dunwoody [illegible]
102 2-31 RAMALLAH 71 (D,G) (Maidens Green Acres) J White 5-11-12 W McFarland 88
103 BALNAGOWN (H Collingridge) H Collingridge 6-11-5 V Smith –
104 800- BLURRED VISION 330 (C Caple) G Ham 5-11-5 S Mackey –
105 0 CALL THE SHOTS 42 (J Wade) J Wade 5-11-5 K Jones –
106 CORNS LITTLE FELLA (M Clarke) D Geraghty 6-11-5 R Supple –
107 DEVIL'S STING (Travail Employment Group Ltd) N Twiston-Davies 5-11-5 C Llewellyn –
108 08PP- FAR VIEW 275 (H Hodge) H Hodge 5-11-5 D Skyrme –
109 0-0 GILPA VALU 55 (Miss N Thesiger) Mrs J Pitman 5-11-5 J Osborne 89
110 0-60 MAC'S LEAP 71 (Mrs D Barnett) Mrs I McKie 5-11-5 M Hourigan 65
111 0 MISTER SPECTATOR 26 (Mrs M Sutton) D Nicholson 5-11-5 W Marston –
112 0-84124 NAGOBELIA 22 (CD,S) (T Buxton) J Pearce 6-11-5 B McCourt 95
113 0 RECTORY GARDEN 26 (Lord Cadogan) T Forster 5-11-5 R Farrant (3) –
114 60 SEATWIST 28 (Sheaniac Steel Services Ltd) J Pickering 5-11-5 T Eley (5) –
115 F4P-044 BUSTLING AROUND 82 (J Bosley) J Bosley 7-11-0 M Bosley 78
116 0 MYRTILLA 57 (R Long) A Turnell 5-11-0 L Harvey 80
117 22-0 SLIPMATIC 54 (E Wilkinson) P Jones 5-11-0 N Williamson –

BETTING: 9-4 Gales Cavalier, 11-4 Ramallah, 7-1 Devil's Sting, 10-1 Gilpa Valu, Mister Spectator, 14-1 Blurred Vision, Myrtilla, 16-1 others.

1993: NIGHT WIND 6-11-5 S McNeill (7-1) A Turnell 20 ran

FORM FOCUS

GALES CAVALIER beat Desert Run 4l in a 20-runner novice hurdle at Wincanton (2m, good to soft).
RAMALLAH beat Kelling 2l in a 14-runner novice hurdle at Hereford (2m 1f, good). GILPA VALU 23l 2th of 21 to My Wizard in a novice hurdle at Sandown (2m 110yd, good). NAGOBELIA beat Rolling Dynasty 1½l in a 15-runner conditional jockeys' selling hurdle over course and distance (good to soft).
BUSTLING AROUND 13l 4th of 13 to Blazon Of Troy in a novice hurdle over course and distance last time out (good to firm).
MISTER SPECTATOR 17l 7th of 14 to St Mellion Fairway in a National Hunt flat race at Newbury (2m 110yd, soft).
SEATWIST 26l 9th of 21 to Brabson in a National Hunt flat race at Warwick (2m, heavy), with RECTORY GARDEN (same terms) 11l 14th.
DEVIL'S STING by Henbit, half-brother to smart 2m-2m 4f hurdler Don Valentino.
Selection: GALES CAVALIER

1.55 ST NEOTS CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP CHASE
(£2,840: 2m 4f 110yd) (6 runners)

201 P1461F- PRIVATE AUDITION 278 (CD,F,G,S) (G Hubbard) F Murphy 12-12-8 P Murphy (4) 91
202 16-6054 MR JAMBOREE 49 (D,F,G) (Mrs D Lousada) J Gifford 8-11-6 P Hide 89
203 1-62P41 BOWL OF OATS 9 (B,D,S) (Mrs A Morley) A Turnell 8-11-6 (6ex) NON-RUNNER –
204 354F2F DANDY MINSTREL 28 (CD,F,G,S) (Windrush Racing) N Twiston-Davies 10-11-1 T Jenks [illegible]
205 10P-P61 GLEN CHERRY 55 (B,D,F,G) (G Phillips) T Forster 8-11-1 R Farrant 95
206 22-2222 DUO DROM 49 (V,CD,G) (F Haggas) Mrs D Haine 9-10-6 W Marston 95

BETTING: 6-4 Duo Drom, 3-1 Glen Cherry, 6-1 Dandy Minstrel, 8-1 Mr Jamboree, 10-1 Private Audition.

1993: CASINO MAGIC 9-10-0 W Marston (33-1) J Spearing 13 ran

FORM FOCUS

PRIVATE AUDITION beat Dr Rocket head in a 4-runner conditional jockeys' handicap chase at Worcester in April (2m, heavy). MR JAMBOREE 24l 4th of 6 to Driving Force in a handicap chase at Fakenham (2m 110yd, good).
DANDY MINSTREL 12l 2nd of 8 to Master Oats in a handicap chase here (3m, soft). GLEN CHERRY beat Ryton Guard 12l in a 4-runner handicap chase at Nottingham (2m 5f 110yd, good). DUO DROM 15l 2nd of 5 to Cool And Easy in a handicap chase at Fakenham (3m, good) last time.
Selection: DANDY MINSTREL

2.25 YELLING NOVICES HURDLE (£1,995: 2m 110yd) (16 runners)

301 31 CARPET SLIPPERS 42 (D,S) (Mrs D Haine) Mrs D Haine 8-11-7 G Bradley 96
302 5 BEACHY GLEN 14 (G Ham) G Ham 7-11-5 S Mackey –
303 P CAP DIAMANT 6 (Mrs W Jenkins) J Jenkins 6-11-5 R Dunwoody –
304 0-000P CHALKIEFORT 13 (Mrs B Eggo) W Kemp 5-11-5 S McDougall (7) –
305 DEDUCE 118F (Mrs P Sherwood) J White 5-11-5 N Williamson –
306 0 FONTANAYS 8 (Pegasus Racing Partnership) Mrs M McCourt 6-11-5 G McCourt 79
307 06- LLOYDS DREAM 282F (Mrs E Sheehan) J Sheehan 5-11-5 R Supple 71
308 RAGAMUFFIN ROMEO 204F (Mrs D Burlett) H Sawyer 5-11-5 S Curran (5) –
309 RIO TRUSKY 373F (Mrs J Grist) D Grissell 5-11-5 J Railton –
310 TEMPLE KNIGHT 133F (T Johnsey) Miss C Johnsey 5-11-5 S Earle –
311 MERRYHILL MADAM 229F (P Bradley) P Bradley 5-11-0 W Humphreys –
312 56 SCOTTISH BALL 59 (F Gray) F Gray 5-11-0 M Crosse [illegible]
313 03 TENAYESTELIGN 29 (G King) D Marks 6-11-0 J McCarthy (5) 92
314 PP BARNEMEBOY 12 (V) (O Henley) P McEntee 4-10-8 W Elderfield –
315 DOCK OF THE BAY 19F (S Cawkwell) P McBride 4-10-8 T Jenks (5) –
316 KING'S GOLD 91F (S Mason) T Jones 4-10-8 C Burnett-Wells (5) –

BETTING: 5-2 Carpet Slippers, 7-2 Tenayesteligm, 5-1 Deduce, 10-1 Scottish Ball, 12-1 Ragamuffin Romeo, 14-1 Lloyds Dream, 16-1 Cap Diamant, 20-1 others.

1993: RIVER ISLAND 5-11-12 C Llewellyn (12-1) J Old 21 ran

FORM FOCUS

CARPET SLIPPERS beat Nipfa 6l in an 11-runner novice hurdle at Towcester (2m, heavy).
SCOTTISH BALL around 10l 5th of 18 to Tissisat in a novice hurdle at Worcester (2m, good).
TENAYESTALIGN 10l 3rd of 12 to Roxy River in a novice hurdle at Stratford (2m 110yd, good to soft).
TEMPLE KNIGHT 8l 4th of 11 to Pickles in a claimer on the Flat at Chepstow in August (1m 4f, good to firm).
Selection: CARPET SLIPPERS

2.55 BET WITH THE TOTE NOVICES CHASE
(Qualifier: £2,906: 3m) (7 runners)

401 UF-60R5 CARRIGLAWN 84 (Mrs S Lousada) J Gifford 9-10-10 P Hide (3) –
402 2F4-36F MUSIC SCORE 31 (G) (Mrs L Taylor) Mrs L Taylor 8-10-10 P Ward (7) –
403 FF2F-P3 PUNCH'S HOTEL 24 (Mrs A Dawes) R Rowe 9-10-10 R Dunwoody [illegible]
404 0- ROYAL EXHIBITION 241 (Mrs F Curtis) R Curtis 10-10-10 D Morris –
405 2/341-F TARAMOSS 118 (D,S) (H Parker) J Edwards 7-10-10 N Williamson –
406 6-P442 THE CARROT MAN 31 (Ragger Chagger Racing) C Egerton 6-10-10 J Osborne –
407 42F4-60 WOODLANDS BOY 49 (S Moore) T Etherington 6-10-10 G McCourt –

BETTING: 7-4 Punch's Hotel, 5-2 Carriglawn, 6-1 Taramoss, The Carrot Man, 7-1 Woodlands Boy, 10-1 Music Score, 16-1 Royal Exhibition.

1993: SADDLER'S CHOICE 8-11-3 N Williamson (4-6 fav) J Edwards 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

CARRIGLAWN 44l 5th of 8 to Notarious in a novice hurdle at Windsor (2m 6f 110yd, good). MUSIC SCORE's best effort came when 4½l 3rd of 16 to Mezaden in a novice chase at Thurles (2m 6f, good). PUNCH'S HOTEL 3½l 3rd of 12 to Avonburn in a handicap chase at Windsor (3m, soft). TARAMOSS fell before halfway in a 10-runner runner novice chase at Worcester (2m 7f, soft). Previously, beat Bob's Request 5l in a 14-runner maiden hurdle at Hexham (3m, soft). THE CARROT MAN 1½l 2nd of 12 to Daves Delight in a handicap hurdle at Newton Abbot (2m 6f, heavy). WOODLANDS BOY distance 3rd of 6 to Fardross in a novice chase at Leicester on penultimate start (3m, good to soft).
Selection: MUSIC SCORE

3.25 EASTERN ELECTRICITY HANDICAP CHASE
(£3,465: 2m 110yd) (4 runners)

501 F2231F SPREE CROSS 6 (D,BF,G,S) (P Mason) Mrs D Haine 8-12-0 G Bradley [illegible]
502 2364P5 EMSEE-H 6 (CD,F,G,S) (G Hubbard) F Murphy 9-11-13 R Dunwoody 90
503 11P-421 MARTHA'S SON 55 (D,F,G,S) (M Ward-Thomas) T Forster 7-10-13 R Farrant (3) 93
504 2-22311 DEXTRA DOVE 51 (D,F,G,S) (Dextra Lighting Systems) R Alner 7-10-9 S Earle 88

BETTING: 11-8 Martha's Son, 9-4 Spree Cross, 3-1 Dextra Dove, 8-1 Emsee-H.

1993: PRIVATE AUDITION 11-11-5 A Maguire (13-2) F Murphy 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

SPREE CROSS beat Good For A Laugh 20l in a 7-runner handicap at Newbury on penultimate start (2m 1f, heavy). EMSEE-H 61l 5th of 8 to Northern Jinks in a handicap chase at Kempton (2m, good to soft), with SPREE CROSS falling at 3rd. MARTHA'S SON beat Rodeo Star 3½l in a 4-runner novice chase at Nottingham (2m, good). DEXTRA DOVE beat Fred Splendid 8l in a 4-runner handicap chase at Plumpton (2m, soft).
Selection: SPREE CROSS (nap)

3.55 SAPLEY HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,553: 3m 2f) (13 runners)

601 3P5-110 GORT 26 (D,G,S) (F Allison) Miss K Allison 6-12-0 R Dunwoody 90
602 F-3122F GRAY'S ELLERGY 31 (G) (W Dore) D Gandolfo 8-11-6 P Holley 92
603 4221-60 CAPPUCCINO GIRL 12 (G) (Mrs J Gray) F Gray 7-11-5 M Crosse 90
604 0511-F2 SURCOAT 19 (F) (Duckhaven Stud) R Baker 7-11-4 L Harvey [illegible]
605 34F-232 LOBRIC 7 (B,F,G) (T Donsley) J Jenkins 9-11-2 N Williamson 93
606 6413-53 PLACE STEPHANIE 14 (S) (Mrs A Pratt) R Rowe 6-11-0 L Dace (7) 89
607 P6/21P-4 CARRIKINS 9 (G) (Mrs R Hepburn) D Grissell 7-10-8 J Railton 89
608 PP/P060 DUKE DE VENDOME 40 (D,F,G,S) Mrs D Haine 11-10-7 Mr G Haine (7) 82
609 U5/4045- VILLA PARK 290 (F,S) (G Wareham) G Wareham 12-10-5 M Perrett 82
610 65-6P06 MOZE TIDY 21 (G) (M Greenway) R Rowe 9-10-4 T Grantham 80
611 124-F03 RELTIC 24 (G) (J Kendrick) C Broad 7-10-0 W Marston 90
612 P/058P6 GROTIUS 14 (B,S) (Travail Employment Group Ltd) G Ham 10-10-0 R Bellamy 95
613 050/0 CHRISTIAN SOLDIER 21 (O Henley) P McEntee 7-10-0 W Elderfield –

Long handicap: Reltic 9-13, Grotius 9-9, Christian Soldier 7-10.

BETTING: 3-1 Surcoat, 4-1 Gray's Ellergy, 6-1 Gort, 8-1 Cappuccino Girl, Lobric, 10-1 Place Stephanie, 12-1 Carrikins, 14-1 Reltic, 16-1 others.

1993: OFFICER CADET 6-10-10 D Bridgwater (11-1) D Wilson 10 ran

FORM FOCUS

GORT beat Alice Smith 2½l in a 14-runner novice handicap hurdle at Taunton on penultimate start (3m 110yd, good to soft). GRAY'S ELLERGY 6l 2nd of 17 to Welsh Lustre in a novice hurdle at Warwick on penultimate start (2m 4f 110yd, soft). CAPPUCCINO GIRL 23l 12th of 24 to Toogood To Be True in a handicap hurdle at Warwick (2m 4f 110yd, heavy). SURCOAT 3½l 2nd of 7 to Baliin Magdalene in a handicap hurdle at Warwick (2m 4f 110yd, soft). LOBRIC 8l 2nd of 9 to General Brandy in a novice chase at Lingfield (3m, heavy). PLACE STEPHANIE 11½l 3rd of 22 to Top Brass in a novice hurdle at Wincanton (2m 6f, good to soft). CARRIKINS 15½l 4th of 6 to Top Wave in a handicap hurdle at Folkestone (2m 1f 110yd, heavy). RELTIC 15l 3rd of 10 to Dig Deeper in a handicap hurdle at Leicester (3m, heavy).
Selection: PLACE STEPHANIE

4.25 OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE
(£1,898: 2m 110yd) (18 runners)

1 ABSOLUTELYMUSTARD (M Worcester) S Sherwood 5-11-5 J Osborne –
2 BEAR CLAW (Roach Foods Ltd) D Nicholson 5-11-5 R Massey (7) –
3 BILLYGOAT GRUFF (Fayers Brown Racing Ltd) D Nicholson 5-11-5 M Keighley (7) –
4 BOY BUSTER (F Gray) F Gray 5-11-5 M Crosse –
5 0 D'ARBLAY STREET 47 (J Mitchell) W Kemp 5-11-5 S McDougall (7) –
6 43 EVEN BLUE 36 (Mrs C Black) Mrs C Black 6-11-5 Mr D McCain (5) –
7 KILLONE ABBOT (Lady Lloyd Webber) J Old 5-11-5 T Grantham –
8 MACKABEE (A Kaplan) Mrs J Pitman 5-11-5 D Bolger (7) –
9 NO MORE NICE GUY (J Miller) G Harwood 5-11-5 M Perrett –
10 SOBER ISLAND (G Swell) N Twiston-Davies 5-11-5 C Llewellyn –
11 SUVLA BAY (Lady Anne Bentinck) O Brennan 6-11-5 M Brennan –
12 WHERE'S WILLIE (D Langdon) N Twiston-Davies 5-11-5 T Jenks (5) –
13 0- WOODLANDS POWER 264 (Woodlands Ltd) P Pritchard 6-11-5 R Davis (3) –
14 ARDENT LOVE (Mrs J Todd) O Brennan 5-11-0 R Moore (7) –
15 CLOWN AROUND (J Hussey) J Hussey 6-11-0 Mr L Lay –
16 RUN ON FLO (J Burbidge) A Reid 6-11-0 N Williamson –
17 EDD THE DUCK (C Smith) C Smith 4-10-7 M Ranger –
18 WIDE-EYED (P Mines) H Collingridge 4-10-2 V Smith –

BETTING: 7-2 No More Nice Guy, 4-1 Bear Claw, 11-2 Mackabee, 6-1 Sober Island, 8-1 Even Blue, 10-1 Killone Abbot, Billygoat Gruff, Where's Willie, 12-1 Absolutelymustard, 14-1 Wide-Eyed, 16-1 others.

1993: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wnrs	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
G Harwood	6	17	35.3	J Railton	11	43	25.6
Mrs J Pitman	15	44	34.1	M Hourigan	3	12	25.0
T Etherington	5	16	31.3	M Perrett	8	42	19.0
D Nicholson	18	60	30.0	P Hide	4	21	19.0
J Pearce	4	19	21.1	R Dunwoody	23	124	18.5
J Gifford	15	75	20.0	W Marston	5	31	16.1

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Pipe plays numbers game for Aintree

MARTIN Pipe accounted for a sixth of the entries for the Martell Grand National at yesterday's acceptance stage. The Wellington trainer, who has yet to have a finisher in the first three in the National, has 17 of the total entry of 101, including Carvill's Hill, Chatam, Riverside Boy and Rolling Ball.

Last year's debacle seems to have had little effect on the race's standing, with the entry just one down on 1993. Charles Barnett, the Aintree managing director and clerk of the course, was delighted with the response. "This has the makings of one of the best Martell Grand National fields," he said. "We await with great interest the publication of the weights on February 8."

Esha Ness, the winner of the National that never was, is back on the Aintree trail, as are Cahervillahow, Romany King and The Committee, the next three finishers in the void race. The Fellow and Young Hustler join Carvill's Hill among the top-class runners who could experience the unique obstacles for the first time.

The Irish have submitted 14 entries, one more than last year, while, aside from France's The Fellow, the only other overseas entry is the Czech horse Quirinus.

Moorcroft Boy heads the ante-post betting on 10-1 with William Hill, 11-1 (Tote) and 14-1 (Ladbrokes and Corals). However, *Double Silk*, the hunter chaser who began his preparation with a 25-length win at Chepstow on Tuesday, has attracted support, prompting Ladbrokes to cut him to 14-1 joint-favourite yesterday.

NATIONAL ENTRIES

Allezmoss, All Jeff, Another Coral, Arctic Call, Avonburn, Bagsums Fire, Belmount Captain, Bishops Hall, Black Humour, Blazing Walker, Cahervillahow, Cat Collect, Capability Brown, Captain Brandy, Carousel Rocket, Carvill's Hill, Catch The Cross, Channels Gate, Chatam, Clever Shepherd, Cool Ground, Cushinstown, Cythere, Deep Colonist, Diamond Fort, Direct, Do Be Brief, Double Silk, Duntree, Ebony Jane, Elfast, Esha Ness, Far Senior, Fiddlers Pike, Fife Concord, Fit For Firing, Fourth Of July, Four Trix, Fragrant Dawn, Gale Again, Gambling Royal, Garrison Savannah, Gay Ruffian, General Idea, General Pershing, Gnome's Tycoon, Gold Cap, Hawthorn Blaze, Henry Mann, He Who Dares Wins, High Peak, Howe Street, Indian Tonic, Into The Red, Its A Cracker, Just So, Keep Talking, King's Curate, Kings Fountain, Laura's Beau, Light Veneer, Lumberjack, Master Oats, Merry Master, Mighty Falcon, Minnehoma, Mister Ed, Moorcroft Boy, Mr Boston, New Mill House, Nick The Brief, Nos Na Gaoithe, Paco's Boy, Party Politics, Quirinus, Rifle Range, Riverside Boy, Roc De Prince, Rolling Ball, Romany King, Royal Athlete, Run For Free, Rust Never Sleeps, Saraville, Shoon Wind, Sibton Abbey, Southern Minstrel, Sparkling Flame, Sure Metal, Tartan Tyrant, The Committee, The Fellow, The Malthouse, Topsham Bay, Tri Folene, Ushers Island, Wheat Fettle, Willsford, Windy Ways, Young Hustler, Zeta's Lad. (101 entries)

LINGFIELD PARK

THUNDERER

1.10 Take A Flyer. 1.40 Safety. 2.10 Mill Burn. 2.40 Ginger Tristan. 3.10 King's Treasure. 3.40 Wild Strawberry. 4.10 Blasket Hero.

GOING: HEAVY (CHASES); STANDARD (HURDLES) SIS

1.10 THATCHER MAIDEN CLAIMING HURDLE
(£1,722: 2m 4f) (8 runners)

1 -305 JUMPING JUDGE 14 T Thomson Jones 7-11-9 A Dicken (3) [illegible]
2 -0P0 ARBEE TWENTY 52 Mrs J Pitman 8-11-7 I Lawrence –
3 PP BALUSTRADE 14 B Stevens 7-11-3 M Stevens –
4 2P-0 RUMBELOW 15 Mrs L Richards 5-11-3 M Richards –
5 2P06 LONG'S EXPRESS 7 (B) K Bailey 6-11-0 A Thornton (3) –
6 F-60 WHATMORECANIASKFOR 7 (B) G Charles-Jones 6-10-10 D Meredith (3) 77
7 P TAKE A FLYER 10F R Hodges 4-10-7 A Tory –
8 2033 OMIDJOY 8 J Jenkins 4-10-4 W J Walsh (7) 89

9-4 Jumping Judge, 11-4 Omidjoy, 4-1 Long's Express, 8-1 Arbee Twenty, 10-1 *Take A Flyer, Whatmorecaniaskfor, 12-1 Rumbelow, 20-1 Balustrade.*

1.40 ASQUITH CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,722: 2m) (4)

1 3-31 DONOSTI 79 (CD,F,G) R Lee 10-12-0 D Fortt (3) 94
2 1422 SAFETY 115 (B,CD,F,G) J White 7-11-9 P McLoughlin (5) [illegible]
3 3100 RED INK 41 (D,F) J Jenkins 5-10-5 W J Walsh (5) 94
4 4F63 CANDLE KING 92 (G) H Manners 6-10-1 M Appleby (5) 93

5-4 Safety, 2-1 Donosti, 4-1 Red Ink, 5-1 Candle King.

2.10 PALMERSTON NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE
(£1,769: 2m 2f) (9)

1 P634 BARTON ROYAL 7 (V) P Ritchens 4-11-10 Richard Guest 90
2 P643 MILL BURN 7 I Campbell 5-11-5 R Campbell [illegible]
3 6-04 COOL SOCIETY 27F W Musson 5-11-0 S Smith Eccles 97
4 2605 HIGHLAND FLAME 7 A Blackmore 5-10-9 D Gallagher 94
5 PP-5 KINGSFOLD PET 15 M Haynes 5-10-9 M Richards –
6 0622 HULLO MARY DOLL 14 (BF) S Mellor 5-10-6 Chris Webb (7) 90
7 0031 NEARLY HONEST 15 (C,G) R Hodges 5-10-4 A Tory 89
8 UP04 BLAKE'S TREASURE 15 (B) T Thomson Jones 7-10-0 Guy Lewis (7) –
9 PF VERRO 23F B Forsey 7-10-0 I Shoemark –

3-4 Nearly Honest, 11-4 Mill Burn, 4-1 Hullo Mary Doll, 6-1 Cool Society, 8-1 Barton Royal, 10-1 Highland Flame, 12-1 others

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: R Akehurst, 6 winners from 12 runners, 50.0%, S Dow, 19 from 51, 37.3%; Mrs J Pitman, 6 from 17, 35.3%; T Thomson Jones, 12 from 38, 31.6%; Miss B Sanders, 24 from 78, 30.8%.
JOCKEYS: A Dicken, 19 winners from 51 rides, 37.3%; S Smith Eccles, 9 from 36, 25%; C Maude, 3 from 12, 25%; A Tory, 4 from 18, 22.2%; M Ahern, 9 from 47, 19.1%; D Gallagher, 9 from 59, 15.3%.

2.40 ATTLEE NOVICES CHASE
(£2,559: 2m 4f 110yd) (9)

1 F-UU BALLINAMOE 10 R Buckler 9-11-4 M Richards –
2 6023 DONT TELL THE WIFE 12 (S) Mrs D Haine 8-11-4 D Bridgwater 95
3 -UP5 DOVEHILL 9 R Townsend 8-11-4 Mr P Bull –
4 P065 FREEMANTLE 45 (G,S) R Buckler 9-11-4 B Powell –
5 61-F GINGER TRISTAN 69 (G) D Grissell 8-11-4 A Tory –
6 0-05 MY DEAR GOOD MAN 14 R Alner 8-11-4 C Maude –
7 -3P2 SUFFOLK ROAD 30 (B,S) R Rowe 7-11-4 M A Fitzgerald 96
8 25-P WHAT A NOBLE 65 T Etherington 8-11-4 A Thornton (3) –
9 -F30 FANTASY WORLD 14 (G,S) J Gifford 8-10-13 D Murphy [illegible]

2-1 Suffolk Road, 11-4 Dont Tell The Wife, 9-2 Fantasy World, 7-1 Ginger Tristan, My Dear Good Man, 10-1 Freemantle, 12-1 What A Noble, 16-1 others.

3.10 DISRAELI NOVICES HURDLE (£1,661: 2m 6f) (4)

1 1124 DEBACLE 105 (BF,F) B McMath 5-12-4 D Murphy 90
2 1145 KING'S TREASURE 55 (D,G,S) I Balding 5-12-4 J Frost [illegible]
3 0-12 CALOGAN 7 (C,G) B Smart 7-11-12 B Powell 80
4 6PFF KEMMY DARLING 45 M Muggeridge 7-11-1 M Ahern –

4-6 King's Treasure, 9-4 Debacle, 7-1 Calogan, 20-1 Kemmy Darling.

3.40 GLADSTONE NOVICES HURDLE (£1,769: 2m) (8)

1 4621 MILZIG 7 (CD,G) R O'Sullivan 5-11-12 D O'Sullivan 94
2 221 WILD STRAWBERRY 15 (C,G) Miss B Sanders 5-11-7 M Richards [illegible]
3 P4 DUTY SERGEANT 50 M Muggeridge 5-11-6 M Ahern –
4 MOGWAI 13F S Dow 5-11-6 A Dicken (3) –
5 3-PP TELMAR SYSTEMS 88 K Ivory 5-11-6 R Campbell –
6 4045 ANY MINUTE NOW 19 R Akehurst 4-10-8 D Bridgwater 90
7 FP0 SUNBEAM CHARLIE 7 A Moore 4-10-8 K Goble (7) –
8 MINSHAAR 236F Mrs P Joynes 4-10-3 T Wall –

4-5 Wild Strawberry, 5-2 Milzig, 7-1 Any Minute Now, 10-1 Duty Sergeant, 12-1 Mogwai, 14-1 Minshaar, 16-1 Sunbeam Charlie, 25-1 Telmar Systems.

4.10 LLOYD GEORGE HANDICAP HURDLE
(£1,769: 2m 4f) (9)

1 24-0 SHIMMERING SCARLET 21 (CD,F,G) R Buckler 6-12-0 Mr C Bonner (7) 92
2 -P24 CAPSIZE 58 (G) A Moore 8-11-11 B Powell –
3 4024 AMPHIGORY 24 (B,F) P Radford 6-11-9 Miss S Cobden (7) 90
4 31-4 FORGE 15 (C,G) K Cunningham-Brown 6-11-9 A Charlton 85
5 6301 BLASKET HERO 14 (B,C,D,F,G) Mrs S Williams 6-11-7 S McNeill [illegible]
6 0401 GREENWINE 15 (C,F,G) Mrs L Richards 8-10-13 M Richards 88
7 -P16 ROYAL CIRCUS 7 (C,G) P Hiatt 5-10-13 D Bridgwater 84
8 -321 QUALITAIR MEMORY 12 (D,G,S) J Akehurst 5-10-12 D Gallagher 98
9 RUR2 WEST BAY 14 (F) T Thomson Jones 8-10-7 S Smith Eccles 93

9-4 Blasket Hero, 9-2 Qualitair Memory, 5-1 Greenwine, 7-1 Shimmering Scarlet, 8-1 Forge, Royal Circus, 10-1 West Bay, 12-1 Amphigory, 16-1 Capsize.

☐ The David Elsworth-trained pair Muse, on 12 stone, and Oh So Risky (11st 12lb) head the weights for the £20,000-added Sandown Handicap Hurdle, formerly the Tote Jackpot Hurdle, on February 5. Martin Pipe has seven entries, including the Imperial Cup winner, Olympian.

RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S THREE MEETINGS

Sedgefield

Going: good to soft (final hurdle omitted)

1.30 (2m 5f 110yd hdle) 1, MANWELL (C Grant, 10-1); 2, Over The Odds (A Maguire, 2-1 fav); 3, Dru Ri's Bru Ri (P Waggott, 12-1); 4, Hotdiggity (A Dobbin, 12-1). ALSO RAN: 13-2 Bold Mood (5th), 9 Loxley Range, 12 Maureen's Fancy, 14 Film Lighting Girl, Serphil, 16 Shahmiraj, Westcourt Flyer, 20 Very Evident (6th), 25 Highfield Prince, Mac Rambler, Palm House, 33 Bluebell Track, Four Alls Lady (pu), Tiber Run, Yacht Club. 19 ran. 4l, 2½l, ¾l, 6l, sh hd. B Temple at Driffield. Tote: £11.20; £2.50, £1.60, £3.70, £3.10. DF: £35.20. Trio: £205.40. CSF: £31.48. Tricast: £244.87.

2.00 (3m 3f 110yd hdle) 1, JENDEE (A Larnach, 5-2 fav); 2, Leading Prospect (B Storey, 8-1); 3, The Green Fool (A Dobbin, 15-2). ALSO RAN: 3 Portona (6th), 7-2 Dig Deeper (5th), 6 Per-Bar (4th). 6 ran. 2l, 6l, 10l, ½l, dist. J Hellens at Chester-le-Street. Tote: £3.50; £1.70, £2.40. DF: £23.30. CSF: £19.26.

2.30 (2m 5f ch) 1, BEACHY HEAD (M Dwyer, 6-4 fav, Richard Evans's nap); 2, Mountebor (S Taylor, 9-2); 3, Bonanza (R Hodge, 5-1). ALSO RAN: 9-2 Down The Road (6th), 6 Invasion (5th), 16 Red Under The Bed, 33 Bad Trade (4th). 7 ran. 7l, 4l, 1l, 10l, 6l. J J O'Neill at Penrith. Tote: £2.40; £1.60, £2.00. DF: £6.30. CSF: £8.54.

3.00 (2m 1f ch) 1, MAUDLINS CROSS (Mr M Buckley, 2-1); 2, Tresidder (Mr S Swiers, 6-5 fav); 3, Mastamoore (Mr R Hale, 11-2). ALSO RAN: 6 Gathering Time (4th). 4 ran. NR: Simple Pleasure. 3l, 15l, dist. Mrs M Reveley at Saltburn. Tote: £2.20. DF: £2.30. CSF: £4.54.

3.30 (3m 3f ch) 1, MORGANS HARBOUR (P Niven, 5-1); 2, Devongale (R Garritty, 11-4); 3, The Pod's Revenge (A Procter, 9-1). ALSO RAN: 9-4 fav Lothian Pilot (f), 8 Kildowney Hill (4th), 9 Ebro (6th), 12 Shelton Abbey (5th), 25 Hunting Country (pu), 66 *Great Legend (f)*. 9 ran. NR: Travel Bound. 4l, nk, 25l, 25l, 30l. Mrs M Reveley at Saltburn. Tote: £6.50; £5.20, £1.80, £2.20. DF: £19.10. Trio: £45.50. CSF: £18.50. Tricast: £110.16.

4.00 (2m 1f 110yd hdle) 1, MY ADVENTURE (L Wyer, 10-1); 2, Manettia (P Niven, 2-1 fav); 3, Scrabble (Richard Guest, 16-1). ALSO RAN: 3 Glendalane Lady (5th), 4 Arctic Wings (4th), 10 Pampered Gem, 25 Chorus Line, 33 Catch The Pigeon, 50 Amber Holly, Gay's Gambit (ur), Heckley Spark (6th). 11 ran. 2½l, 1l, 4l, 10l, 8l. M H Easterby at Malton. Tote: £9.40; £2.40, £1.80, £1.90. DF: £11.20. CSF: £27.91.

Jackpot: not won (pool of £9,678.69 carried forward to Huntingdon today).

Placepot: £172.30.

Lingfield Park

Going: heavy (second fence in back straight omitted)

1.50 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, Mames Boy (D Murphy, 33-1); 2, Hawaiian Youth (11-4 fav); 3, The Changeling (14-1). 16 ran. NR: Sharp Performer. Hd, 2l. J Gifford. Tote: £38.10; £6.70, £1.50, £5.00. DF: £482.40. CSF: £131.67.

2.20 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, Derrymore Boy (Guy Lewis, 5-1); 2, Playpen (4-5 fav); 3, Hope Diamond (7-1). 7 ran. 3l, dist. P Nicholls. Tote: £7.90; £2.60, £1.50. DF: £4.70. CSF: £8.77.

2.50 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, Crabby Bill (A Dicken, 4-1); 2, Al Peace (7-2 jt-fav); 3, Boogie Bopper (5-1). My Senor 7-2 jt-fav. 7 ran. NR: Kovalevskia. 4l, 3l. Miss B Sanders. Tote: £5.10; £2.10, £1.40. DF: £4.50. CSF: £16.83. Tricast: £61.44. *Winner bought in for 3,400gns.*

3.20 (3m ch) 1, Master Oats (N Williamson, 4-1); 2, Fiddlers Three (12-1); 3, Sunley Bay (9-1). Midnight Caller 5-4 fav. 7 ran. 2l, 2½l. K Bailey. Tote: £4.90; £2.40, £4.10. DF: £31.00. CSF: £41.47.

3.50 (2m ch) 1, Cabochon (J Frost, 7-4 fav); 2, Peaceman (2-11); 3, Mister Oddy (9-2). 7 ran. NR: Sound And Fury. 10l, 12l. R Frost. Tote: £3.10; £2.10, £1.60. DF: £5.70. CSF: £6.07.

4.20 (2m 3f 110yd hdle) 1, The Golfing Curate (G McCourt, 4-5 fav, Thunderer's nap & Private Handicapper's top rating); 2, The Whip (11-2); 3, Nefarious (4-1). 7 ran. 7l, 10l. R Rowe. Tote: £1.80; £1.20, £2.20. DF: £4.80. CSF: £6.17.

Placepot: £51.90.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: CAPPUCCINO GIRL
(3.55 Huntingdon)

Next best: Martha's Son
(3.25 Huntingdon)

Southwell

Going: standard

1.40 (2m 2f hdle) 1, Kea (C Llewellyn, 10-1); 2, Teen Jay (4-5 fav); 3, Scrabo View (5-1). 12 ran. 2l, 1l. N Twiston-Davies. Tote: £9.80; £2.10, £1.20, £1.40. DF: £18.10. CSF: £19.00.

2.10 (2m 4f hdle) 1, Bentley Manor (D Bridgwater, 4-1 fav); 2, Burn Bridge (11-2); 3, Aldahe (8-1). 11 ran. 5l, 15l. K Bridgwater. Tote: £5.40; £2.00, £2.00, £3.00. DF: £16.00. Trio: £130.80. CSF: £24.85. Tricast: £154.24.

2.40 (2m hdle) 1, Ruth's Gamble (Mr B Pollock, 9-4 fav); 2, Glossy (3-1); 3, Have A Party (12-1). 6 ran. 15l, dist. Mrs L Jewell. Tote: £3.00; £2.70, £1.70. DF: £3.90. CSF: £8.72.

3.10 (2m 4f hdle) 1, Elegant King (M A Fitzgerald, 4-1); 2, Chapel Hill (3-1 fav); 3, Gymcrak Dawn (7-1). 7 ran. NR: Have A Nightcap. 15l, 5l. A Jarvis. Tote: £4.10; £1.30, £2.70. DF: £11.20. CSF: £15.04. Tricast: £68.30.

3.40 (2m hdle) 1, Wheeler's Wonder (Mr J L Llewellyn, 5-2 fav); 2, Ballerina Rose (4-1); 3, Abelonl (33-1). 12 ran. 6l, 5l. B Llewellyn. Tote: £3.40; £2.10, £1.80, £5.60. DF: £7.20. CSF: £12.31.

4.10 (2m flat) 1, Certain Angle (N Parker, 5-1); 2, Borne (4-1 fav); 3, Crowther Homes (12-1). 15 ran. 4l, 1½l. P Hobbs. Tote: £19.50; £13.50, £3.50, £2.30. DF: £39.20. CSF: £29.89.

Placepot: £25.80.

☐ The stewards at Uttoxeter will inspect at 8.30am today, for their card tomorrow, if there is further rain.

☐ Dermot Weld's Loki was withdrawn from the Lincoln yesterday with Stoney Valley, Rustic Craft, Skipo and Leif The Lucky.

Pitch judged too slow for McCague

FROM MICHAEL HENDERSON IN PORT ELIZABETH

MARTIN McCague, who came to South Africa as the likeliest bowling replacement for the senior tour of West Indies, has been left out of the England A team for the five-day match against their South African counterparts which starts here today.

Darren Gough, of Yorkshire, will share the new ball with Mark Ilott as England have opted to play all six batsmen on a pitch that is expected to be slow and low.

Paul Taylor, who flew out two weeks ago to replace the injured Martin Bicknell, is the other player not to be selected. Mark Lathwell, who was endured a woeful time here, therefore has a final chance to make something of his tour. He reverts to opening the innings with Hugh Morris.

It is a severe blow for McCague, the only genuinely fast bowler in the party, who has been working steadily to regaining full fitness after suffering a stress fracture of the back last season. He has had to bowl on some unresponsive pitches, but he, like everyone else, imagined that he would play in the final game of the tour.

Explaining the decision, Phil Neale, the team manager, said: "We felt that Dominic Cork's return to England unbalanced us and, whichever way we tried to settle it, we could not strike an ideal balance. The pitch is the same slow one used for the Eastern Province game and we expect the spinners to do a lot of the bowling.

"We went for Gough in front of the other two bowlers because he is more of a skidder and can bowl useful spells with the old ball when it might keep low. Eldine Baptiste, who is similar, takes a lot of wickets for Eastern Province and we feel Gough is the right type of bowler for this pitch.

"McCague bowls a shorter length and is unlikely to get much assistance from the pitch. There is no pace in it. His position as a possible replacement for West Indies is not jeopardised by his non-selection. Not many pitches here have suited him. When he whacks the ball in, he gets no response."

Only at Verwoerdburg, where England beat Northern Transvaal by eight wickets on an old-fashioned "terror track" has McCague been truly in his element. The prospect of playing a five-day game on so lifeless a pitch as St George's Park is no good for anyone, batsman or bowler. Overall, the quality of pitches England have played on has been appalling.

At the start of the tour, one would have expected Bicknell, McCague and Cork to play in this match, if they remained fit. Now, for differing reasons, England must find wickets from elsewhere. Ilott has been extremely impressive and, deprived of Cork's support, he needs to be at his most penetrative and unflagging.

To justify his selection, Gough has to bowl plenty of overs, concede fewer than three runs in each of them and take wickets. It is a tall order for someone who came on this tour as the fifth of five seamers. On such decisions as these are matches won and lost.

The most important performers are likely to be the two sets of spinners. Opposing Peter Such and Robert Croft are Derek Crookes, the Natal off spinner, and Clive Eksteen, the slow left-armer from Transvaal. They will bowl behind the three Western Province seamers, Meyrick Pringle, Aubrey Martyn and Eric Simons.

"We are not considering losing this match", Neale said. "The tour has been successful and one result will not alter that, but obviously people will focus on this game."

And — he might have added — let's hope Morris wins the toss. In first-class cricket, he has called correctly twice in seven attempts.

TEAMS

ENGLAND A: H Morris (captain), M N Lathwell, J P Crawley, A P Wells, M B Loye, A Dale, S J Rhodes (wicketkeeper), R. D B Croft, D Gough, M C Ilott, P M Such.

SOUTH AFRICA A: S J Cook (captain), J M Arthur, G F J Liebenberg, R J R Steyn, A P Kuiper, E O Simons, D N Crookes, S J Palframan (wicketkeeper), C E Eksteen, M W Pringle, A Martyn.

Australia bids fond farewell to Border

FROM PETER ROEBUCK IN ADELAIDE

NO BRITISH sportsman, not even David Gower, could have hoped for an ovation of the sort given to Allan Border as he stepped on to the Sydney Cricket Ground on Tuesday evening, probably for the last time in Australian colours. It bordered on idolatry. Suddenly the match itself was forgotten — it was, after all, only a cup final — and suddenly not a contest or a game was being celebrated, but a man.

Not in their wildest dreams could any British sportsman or woman imagine being greeted with the roars and chants bestowed on Border as, for once bowing to the crowd's whim, the Australia captain allowed himself to bowl the final over in the decisive third match in the World Series Cup final.

Later, he lifted the cup of victory that tastes so sweet and was cheered to the echo. Others were cheered too, but in anticipation of riches to follow. With Border, it is a matter of recognition of a man who has risen above himself on countless occasions to hold the team together. It is hard to avoid clichés with Border, who favours them himself but has never become one.

It was a remarkable evening and an astonishing display of affection. Border, after all, stands with hands on hips, his fury plain, when things are going wrong. Sometimes he kicks the turf, often he scratches his head, occasionally he grizzles at umpires.

Rarely does he smile and never does he woo crowds with the impishness of a Derek Randall, the theatricality of Tony Greig or the heroic populism of Ian Botham. That is why his waves to the crowd on the field and as he left were so significant. Border says he intends to decide his future during the winter; watching him, it was hard to avoid the conclusion that, at 38 and after 15 years of Test cricket, he has already made up his mind.

Border's popularity springs from the way he simply does his stuff, without emotion or style. He is the common man writ large, you or I out there, an ordinary bloke trying his hardest to score some runs, take some wickets and run some of these blighters out. He lacks all mystery, all hubris and is remarkable chiefly because he is unbreakable. Yet it is not you or I out there at all. Others, apparently more brilliant, are actually more human because they hear and sometimes answer the calls of temptation.

No Australian cricketer, or none since Victor Trumper, could have commanded, or rather inspired, such a display. Lovers of sport here love most those who play sport best, provided they do not get above themselves. By the same token, they are dismissive of the ordinary and especially of the defensive. Granted, Border is more than a mite cautious, yet he makes up for it with courage, determination and a desire to prevail. Nobody has ever wanted to win more or more often than Border. To watch him on Tuesday evening, prowling in the outfield, head bowed and grumpy at every run conceded, was to know it. For such qualities, much can be forgiven.

It was an ovation that spoke of an unashamed hero worship and it could not occur on England's sceptical turf. We are used to sniffing our stars, like cats at food; in Australia they join the fellow on his journey. Most stars here seem more genuine, more typical, more of the land, of the nation. They are not a breed apart. This is a land of stark colours, of fire and rain, desert and snow, of barbarians to the English philistines. It is a country of absolutes, a land of extremities and of survivors and Border is among the greatest of those survivors.

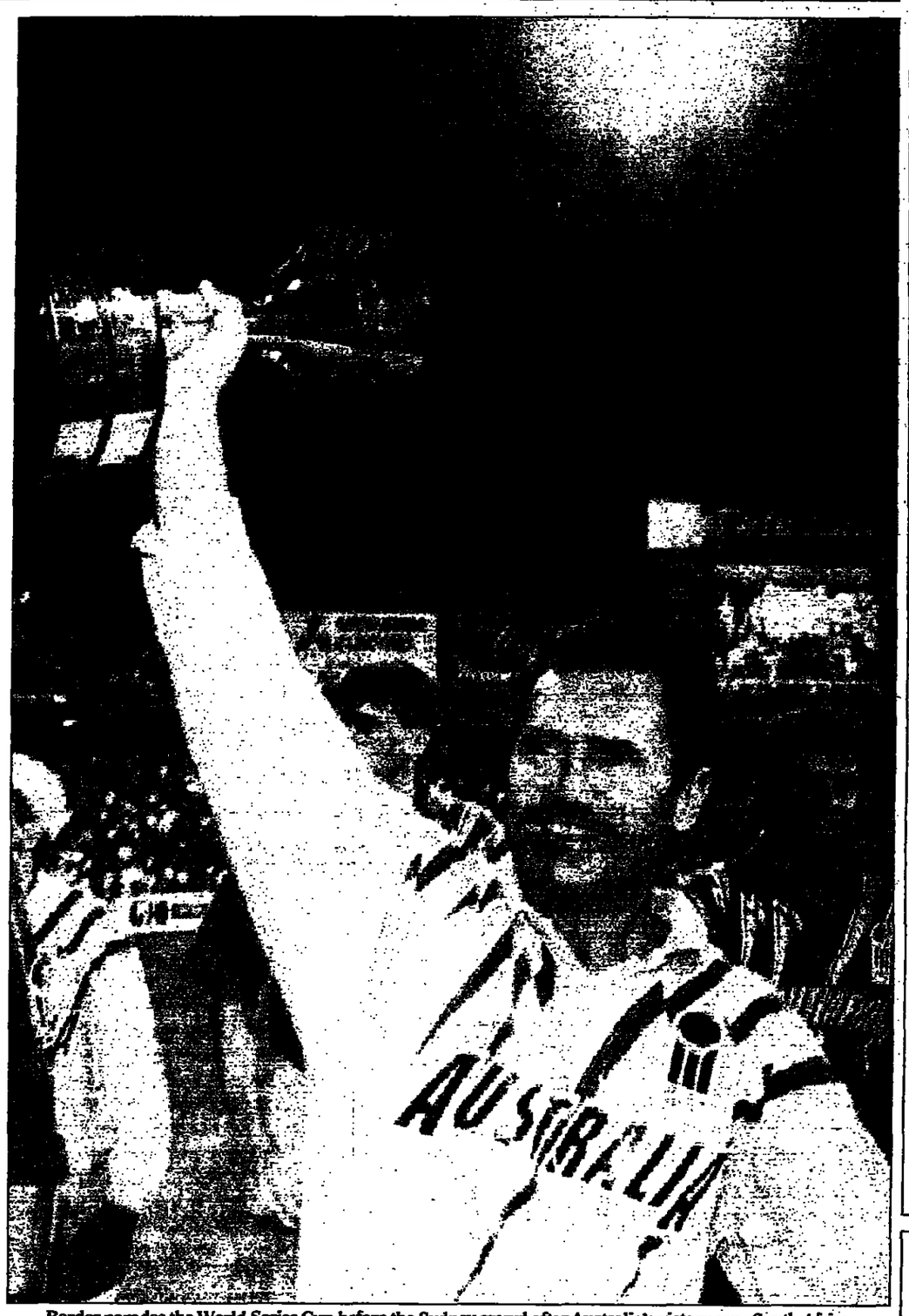
There is no cushy road to the top in Australia and those who rise are respected. Also, having risen, they do not lose touch because they continue to play club cricket and are known around the place, by the public they so closely represent and resemble. Heroes here have risen from the womb of Australia and they are treated like beloved sons.

And what did those cheers signify? They had the air of a fond farewell to a magnificent servant whose retirement is imminent and for whom a job has been arranged (Border will work for the Australian Cricket Board). It did not feel like a request to stay a little bit longer. Everyone joined in the cheers, even those calling for change, mostly to be found among the intelligentsia, hard-headed businessmen, former players and old-fashioned types who think Border is too much a creature of the growling present and is hanging on too long. It is usual for such thinkers to arrive at the correct conclusion a year too early, usual for the general public to reach it a year too late.

In all probability, the Test match starting here tomorrow will be Border's last on Australian turf. It should be a great match, because Adelaide pitches nowadays tend to be grassy on the first morning and to take spin soon afterwards. Huge crowds are expected, ticket sales having been high, and there is a series to be decided as South Africa lead 1-0 after the first two Tests. Nonetheless, all eyes will be on that short, prosaic and rather grumpy man a nation has taken to its heart.

AUSTRALIA (from): A Border (captain), M Taylor, M Slater, D Boon, M Waugh, S Waugh, I Healy, P Reiffel, S Warne, C McDermott, T May, G McGrath.

SOUTH AFRICA (from): H Cronje (captain), D Cullinan, D Callaghan, F de Villiers, A Donald, A Hudson, G Kirsten, P Kirsten, C Matthews, B McMillan, D Richardson, J Rhodes, D Rundle, R Snell, E Stewart, P Symcox.



Border parades the World Series Cup before the Sydney crowd after Australia's victory over South Africa

Sidhu falls one run short

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

NAVJOT Sidhu missed out on a second successive Test century by just one run as India punished the Sri Lankan attack on the opening day of the second Test match in Bangalore yesterday.

Sidhu was trapped leg before by Muthiah Muralithan on 99, having hit the off spinnner for 12 runs in one over, including one towering six over long-on. It was sweet revenge for Muralithan, who had been harshly treated by Sidhu in India's innings victory in the first Test, and denied Sidhu his sixth Test hundred.

Muralithan also accounted for Vinod Kambli for an aggressive 82, but not before he and Sidhu had put on 148 for the second wicket. Sidhu, who made 124 in the first Test in Lucknow to steer India to a victory by an innings and 119 runs over Sri Lanka, made a slow start here. Most of his runs came off nudges and glances: while Kambli opted for flamboyant strokeplay.

From a modest lunch score of 88 for one, India added 109 quickfire runs before Kambli, who had raced to 80 in 82 minutes off 67 balls, lofted spinner Muralitharan straight into the hands of Wickramsinghe at long-off. The 148-run stand between Kambli and Sidhu came in just 169 minutes.

Sachin Tendulkar then scored a superb unbeaten 90, including 15 fours, before India closed on an impressive total of 339 for three. At one stage, Tendulkar struck four successive boundaries off the medium-pace bowler, Wickremasinghe, and shared an unbroken fourth-wicket stand of 91 in just 73 balls with Mohammad Azharuddin, the Indian captain, who finished the day on 32 not out.

☐ Martin Crowe, the captain of New Zealand, has ruled himself out of the forthcoming series against Pakistan. He had surgery on an injured knee in November after the first Test against Australia in Perth and only returned to cricket this month.

Crowe and his surgeon, Barry Tietjens, felt the knee needed a further four to six weeks of regular treatment to regain full fitness and he is unlikely to be available for the New Zealand team before the end of March. Crowe's absence has left a huge gap that has seen the New Zealand side lose its last two Test matches badly and miss out on a place in the World Series Cup one-day international series finals in Australia.

SCOREBOARD

INDIA: First Innings

M Prabhakar c Dasanayake b Wickremesinghe	14
N S Sidhu lbw Muralitharan	99
V G Kambli c Wikremasinghe b Muralitharan	82
S R Tendulkar not out	80
*M'Azharuddin not out	32
Extras (lb 3, nb 17, b 2)	22
Total (3 wkts)	339

S V Manjrekar, Kapil Dev, †N Mongia, A R Kumble, R K Chauhan, S L V Raju to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-34, 2-182, 3-243.

BOWLING: Wickremasinghe 14-0-75-1; Jayasuriya 8-2-28-0; Muralitharan 35-3-117-2; Ranatunga 4-0-14-0; Anurasiri 20-1-75-0; Kalpage 9-1-27-0.

SRI LANKA: *A Ranatunga, R S Mahanama, D P Samaraweera, P A de Silva, S T Jayasuriya, H P Tillekeratne, R S Kalpage, †P B Dasanayake, P B Wickremesinghe, M Muralitharan, S D Anurasiri.

MCC plan given approval

BY IVO TENNANT

THE Cricket Council, the governing body of the game in Britain since 1968, will soon be replaced by a new central board of control that will administer both the first-class and recreational tiers. The plan was proposed by an MCC working party at Lord's last night.

Although the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB) and the National Cricket Association (NCA) had initial suspicions of the motives of the MCC, a private club, they are agreed that it would be desirable to have a single board of control.

"I've no doubt this will come to pass," Alan Smith, chief executive of the TCCB, said. "We've been having discussions with the NCA over this for the last two or three years. On first sight of MCC's report, I approve of it," he said.

Lord Griffiths, who chaired the working party, met with Smith and Frank Chamberlain, the chairman of the TCCB, to assure them that the MCC was not trying to usurp its power.

The new body would absorb the NCA, which runs the recreational game in Britain. Don Robson, its chairman, said yesterday that although "MCC's technique of invitation was a bit amiss", a complete review of the organisation of cricket was necessary. The board of control could come into being by the end of the year, he believed, once it had been approved by the Cricket Council and county chairmen.

The NCA is to appoint Mickey Stewart, the former England manager, as its director of coaching. He and a director of administration will replace Keith Andrew, who retires as chief executive in April. Stewart, who is already working for the NCA, will combine the role with working for the TCCB's programme of youth development.

Other organisations, such as the English Schools' Cricket Association, would also be incorporated within the board. The minor counties would be given more authority and coaching schemes would be run by county clubs themselves.

The Cricket Council meets today and, although it is unlikely these proposed changes will be discussed, there is a belief that its main constituent parts, the TCCB and the NCA, will need to meet more regularly in future.

The MCC will comment further on its proposals at its annual meeting in May. Members were also told that the club has been asked by the International Cricket Council to continue sending tour parties, umpires and coaches abroad.

Although the MCC's powers have diminished over the last quarter of a century, it would still like to have responsibility for the laws of the game and to publically address any issue to ensure standards are upheld. Though its voice in the new board will be a small one — the TCCB and NCA have greater representation on the Cricket Council — the MCC hopes to continue, as it puts the sentiments, "to encourage, warn and advise".

Newlove withdraws from sevens squad

PAUL Newlove, in withdrawing from the Great Britain squad for the Rugby League World Sevens next week in Australia has put his potentially-illustrious international career at risk (Christopher Irive writes). The Bradford Northern centre is to have his future decided for him by the Rugby Football League (RFL) board of directors when it meets next month to discuss whether to take any further action other than preventing Newlove's participation in the game on February 6 against his former club, Featherstone Rovers, on the weekend he should have been in Sydney.

Newlove was felt lucky to have escaped punishment in the past for missing a match in France. The consequence this time could be a ban on his selection for the international against France in Carcassonne on March 20, although extending this to the home series with Australia in the autumn would be too stiff a penalty. Newlove blamed his withdrawal on unfortunate timing with his move of house.

GREAT BRITAIN SQUAD (World Sevens, February 4-6): J Bentley (Halifax), J Davies (Warrington), S Edwards (Wigan, captain), S Ellis (Castleford), L Jackson (Sheffield Eagles), C Joynt (St Helens), P Medley (Bradford Northern), M Ollish (Wigan), G Steadman (Castleford), A Tait (Leeds).

Holyfield confirms date

BOXING: Evander Holyfield, who holds two versions of the world heavyweight title, will defend them against a fellow American, Michael Moorer, at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas on April 22. Holyfield regained the World Boxing Association (WBA) and International Boxing Federation (IBF) titles by beating Riddick Bowe in November. Moorer, who is undefeated, is the No 1 contender in both the WBA and IBF rankings. Wayne McCullough, from Belfast, will make the first defence of his North American Boxing Federation bantamweight championship on February 18 in San Diego against Paul Gonzales, of the United States.

Scots whitewashed

TABLE TENNIS: Victories over Scotland carried England's men's and women's teams into the second stage of the Commonwealth championships in Hyderabad yesterday, putting them into a league table of four from which the finalists will emerge. Wins in straight games for Mathew Syed, the Oxford University student, over Brian Wright and Ian Stokes, put England's top-seeded men on their way to a 5-0 success. England's women, seeded second, won 3-0, with the national champion, Andrea Holt, beating her Surrey-based Scottish counterpart, Janet Smith, 21-16, 21-9. Hong Kong remain strong favourites for the women's title.

World record claimed

YACHTING: After a great feat of speed-sailing, *ENZA New Zealand* has claimed a 24-hour world record by covering 520.9 miles. The yacht is now four days ahead of schedule in the first stage of an attempt to break the non-stop round-the-world record. Co-skippered by Robin Knox-Johnston and the New Zealander, Peter Blake, the 92ft catamaran sailed the 24-hour record earlier in the week, smashing the previous best of 425 miles set in December by *Intrum Justitia* on the second leg of the Whitbread Round The World Race, in which *Uruguay Natural* and *Odessa*, the last yachts, reached Auckland yesterday.

British Open prize rise

SQUASH: The British Open championships at Wembley in April, sponsored for a ninth successive year by Hi-Tec, will offer total prize-money of £114,091, an increase of nearly £5,000. The rise is designed to maintain the status of the game's premier tournament, which attracts more than 500 players. Jansher Khan, of Pakistan, will defend the men's title, which will be worth £10,440 to the winner, while the women's title, held by Michelle Martin, of Australia, will carry a prize of £7,650. A few tournaments offer higher individual prizes, but none match the total fund.

Smith secures title

RACKETS: Neil Smith, the New York professional, has won the US Open championship after a spirited tussle with his fellow Briton, Peter Brake, the Queen's Club professional. Smith, the favourite, served majestically in the opening game, but Brake began retrieving superbly from all over the court, consistently hitting winners down the wall on his return of serve. Smith, who challenged unsuccessfully for James Male's world title last season, responded by stepping up the pace and eventually came through comfortably, winning 15-6, 4-15, 15-7, 15-4.

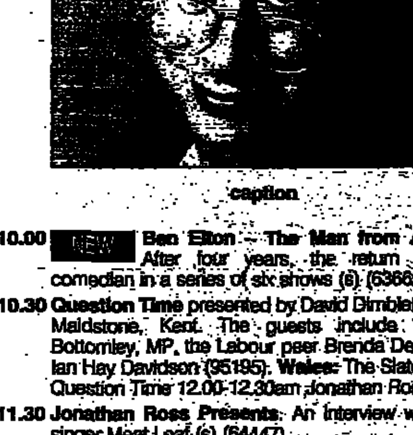
	Depth (cm) L	U	Conditions Piste	Off/p	Runs to resort		Weather (5pm) °C		Last snow
ANDORRA									
Soldeu	95	175	good	varied	art	fine	-3	20/1	
(Piste in good condition after careful grooming)									
AUSTRIA									
Mayrhofen	0	70	fair	varied	closed	snow	1	28/1	
(Light snow on hard, crusty base)									
Obergurgl	75	130	good	powder	good	snow	-3	26/1	
(Near blizzard conditions limiting skiing)									
Schladming	35	130	varied	heavy	worn	snow	-1	26/1	
(Hard and icy after recent rain)									
Söll	15	65	icy	heavy	worn	snow	1	26/1	
(Windblown pockets of new snow above 1,400 metres)									
FRANCE									
Avoriaz	155	195	good	powder	good	snow	-1	28/1	
(High winds making skiing difficult)									
Chamonix	50	340	good	varied	fair	snow	2	26/1	
(Heavy cloud and snow, gusting winds)									
Isola	165	250	fair	varied	fair	fine	-4	18/1	
(Some south-facing slopes becoming worn)									
S Chevalier	40	170	good	varied	good	snow	0	26/1	
(Skiing testing due to 100kph winds)									
Tignes	160	320	good	varied	good	snow	-7	26/1	
(Most lifts closed due to gusting winds)									
Val Thorens	145	310	good	powder	good	snow	-2	25/1	
(High winds and poor visibility limiting skiing)									
SWITZERLAND									
Grindelwald	10	70	varied	heavy	closed	snow	1	28/1	
(High winds closing most lifts by midday)									
Gstaad	20	75	fair	heavy	fair	snow	-1	28/1	
(Blizzard conditions on higher runs)									
Klosters	40	160	good	varied	good	snow	-2	28/1	
(Skiing restricted due to high winds)									
Villars	30	170	good	varied	good	snow	2	28/1	
(High winds closing most lifts)									

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L - lower slopes; U - upper; art - artificial.

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BBC1

6.00 Business Breakfast (57918)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (89925911)
9.05 Kilroy. A studio discussion on a topical subject (s) (4941008) **9.45 Newshound.** Current affairs quiz (s) (1191973)
10.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (9399602) **10.05 Playdays** (s) (5448911)
10.30 Good Morning . . . with Anne and Nick. Weekday magazine (61165824)
12.15 Pebble Mill with Alan Titchmarsh (s) (4715282) **12.55 Regional News** and weather (67930282)
1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (95805) **1.30 Neighbours.** (Ceefax) (s) (1995691l)
1.50 Yanks. A documentary about the men of the USAAF stationed in this country during the Second World War. With contributions from James Stewart and Walter Matthau (r) (13967027)
2.15 FILM: Flying Tigers (1942, b/w) starring John Wayne. Second World War aerial drama about American fighter pilots helping the Chinese in their battle against the Japanese. Directed by David Miller (723060)
3.50 Noddy (r) (s) (7038350) **4.00 Batfink.** Animation (9667398) **4.05 Jackanory.** Episode one of a two part dramatised story, *Chocolate-Covered Ants*, by Stephen Manes (s) (1009737) **4.20 Popeye and Son** (9661114) **4.30 Sloggers.** Comedy drama series about a young team of Lancastrian cricketers. (Ceefax) (s) (9998008)
4.55 Newsround (8198602) **5.05 Blue Peter.** (Ceefax) (s) (5073756)
5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (515244)
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Anna Ford and Mike Smartt. (Ceefax) Weather (973)
6.30 Regional news magazines (553). **Northern Ireland:** Neighbours
7.00 Top of the Pops. (Ceefax) (s) (3911)
7.30 EastEnders. (Ceefax) (s) (737)
8.00 Health and Efficiency. Comedy set in a hospital, starring Gary Olsen. (Ceefax) (s) (9331)
8.30 Wildlife on One: Nature's Neons. State of the art photographic equipment reveals the lifestyle of the luminous creatures that inhabit Asia's mangroves. (Ceefax) (s) (8466)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Peter Sissons. (Ceefax) Regional news and weather (1534)
9.30 CHOICE **Absolutely Fabulous: Hospital.** (Ceefax) (s) (83911)

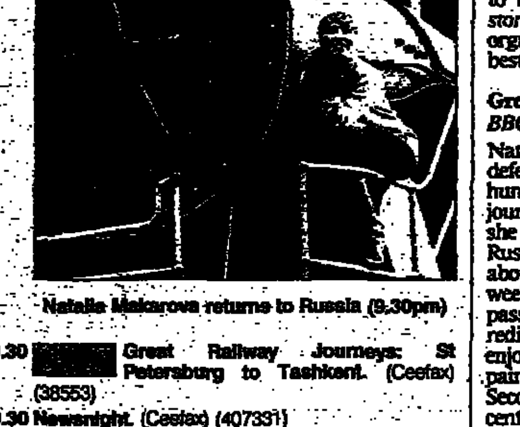


caption

10.00 NEW **Ben Elton — The Man from Auntie.** After four years, the return of the comedian in a series of six shows (s) (63669)
10.30 Question Time presented by David Dimbleby from Maidstone, Kent. The guests include Virginia Bottomley, MP, the Labour peer Brenda Dean and Ian Hay Davidson (95195). **Wales:** The Slate 11.00 Question Time 12.00-12.30am Jonathan Ross
11.30 Jonathan Ross Presents. An interview with the singer Meat Loaf (s) (64447)
12.00 Weather (1647567). **3.00am-3.30 BBC Select: RCN Nursing Update** (33206)

BBC2

6.00 Breakfast News. (Ceefax) (1872701)
8.15 Westminster Daily (9253263)
9.00 Daytime on Two. Educational programmes. Plus, for children, **1.20** Fiddley Foodle Bird (44469466) **1.30-1.40** Johnson and Friends (61727602)
2.00 News (Ceefax) and weather followed by **Numbertime** (r) (62183553) **2.20 Play It Safe.** Anneka Rice with advice if your think your child has swallowed something poisonous (r). (Ceefax) (15572466) **2.30 Advice Shop.** Includes a report on the private pensions scandal (s) (114)
3.00 News (Ceefax) and weather followed by **Westminster Live.** Includes Prime Minister's questions. (Ceefax) (4632485) **3.50 News** (Ceefax), regional news and weather (7036992)
4.00 Today's the Day. Recent news quiz (s) (466)
4.30 People of the Valley. Welsh language drama serial. English subtitles (s) (350). **Wales:** The Lost Wilderness
5.00 Catchword. Paul Coia with another round of the word game (s) (8089)
5.30 Making Candles. A demonstration of the different techniques in candle-making (602)
6.00 FILM: Flaming Star (1960) starring Elvis Presley. Western drama about the son of a white father and Indian mother whose loyalties are divided after a neighbouring family are massacred. Directed by Don Siegel (29911)
7.30 First Sight: White Collar Crimes. Chris Godsmark reports on the increase in fraud (379). **Wales:** Week In Week Out; **Midlands:** *Midlands Report;* **North, North-east** and **North-west:** Close Up North; **South:** Southern Eye; **South-west:** Close Up; **West:** Close Up West
8.00 Big Science. A look at new evidence that points to the existence of extra-sensory perception (7973)
8.30 The Quest for the Rose. The fourth of Roger Phillips's six-part series on the history of the rose (Ceefax) (s) (6008)
9.00 The All-New Alexei Sayle Show. Off-beat comedy from the Liverpudlian funnyman. (Ceefax) (s) (9176)



Natalia Makarova returns to Russia (9.30pm)

9.30 CHOICE **Great Railway Journeys: St Petersburg to Tashkent.** (Ceefax) (38553)
10.30 Newsnight. (Ceefax) (407331)
11.15 The Late Review presented by Mark Lawson (s) (922350) **11.55 Weather** (743640)
12.00 FILM: Invasion of the Body Snatchers (1956, b/w) starring Kevin McCarthy. Don Siegel's cult science fiction drama about a California community taken over by aliens. (7335374). Ends at **1.25am**

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CHOICE



Saunders, Sawalha and Lumley (BBC1, 9.30pm)

Absolutely Fabulous
BBC1, 9.30pm

Jennifer Saunders's raucous, award-winning comedy returns in fine form with fashion editor Patsy caught up in a political sex scandal and her friend Edina languishing in hospital with a bad toe. Saunders and co-star Joanna Lumley both have perfect comic timing, and the off-the-wall script full of delicious one-liners keeps the familiar formula fresh. Acting as useful foils to the pair are Julia Sawalha as Edina's straight-laced daughter, now a student, and June Whitfield as Edina's unshockable mother, this week offending Patsy with her casual observation: "Another MP making a fool of himself with some scrawny old hooker I see..."

Secret History: White Lies
Channel 4, 9.00pm

This fascinating programme details the work of the clandestine International Defence and Aid Fund (IDAF). Established in the 1950s by Canon John Collins of St Paul's Cathedral, IDAF funded the anti-apartheid struggle in South Africa for more than 40 years. It was thanks to IDAF that the families of political prisoners were supported and that top lawyers were hired to defend black activists such as Nelson Mandela. When in 1966 IDAF was banned in South Africa, it went underground, working out a clever system whereby individual letter writers sent money to families and dummy trusts enabled lawyers to be paid. Paul Yule's film contrasts the moving stories of the activists with the cool efficiency of an organisation which was never infiltrated despite the best efforts of South Africa's Secret Police.

Great Railway Journeys: St Petersburg to Tashkent
BBC2, 9.30pm

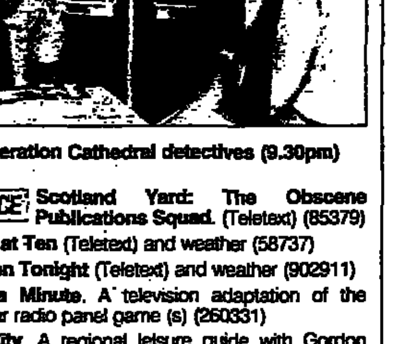
Natalia Makarova, the Kirov prima ballerina who defected to the West in 1970, makes a rich and humorous contribution to this series of celebrity train journeys. Accompanied by her American-born son, she returns to St Petersburg for an epic trip across Russia, confiding to the camera: "I can't help worrying about travelling with so many people for two whole weeks". Along the way she has to endure odd passengers, but the main point of the adventure is to rediscover her home country. Not all the stop-offs are enjoyable. In Volgograd a memorial reminds her painfully of her father who disappeared during the Second World War, while in Astrakhan, the caviar centre of the world, she finds abject poverty.

Scotland Yard: Obscene Publications Squad
ITV, 9.30pm

This somewhat self-congratulatory documentary series is absorbing viewing nevertheless. Obscene Publications Squad officers say that they deal with the "darkest side of human nature" and on the evidence of this programme, few would disagree. When the squad is shown a horrendous video of a seven-year-old boy being sexually abused, they begin the painstaking "Operation Cathedral", which aims to track down the pervert responsible. Much of the work is mind-numbingly tedious, as when they drive round Northamptonshire looking for railings which match those glimpsed on the video, but their efforts reap handsome rewards. **Stephanie Billen**

ITV LONDON

6.00 GMTV (339973) **9.00 Top of the Morning** (6438973)
9.25 Win, Lose or Draw (s) (6481060)
9.55 London Today (Teletext) and weather (5424331)
10.00 The Time . . . The Place. (s) (7706640)
10.35 This Morning. (61159263) **12.20 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (2969553)
12.30 News (Teletext) and weather (1984398)
12.55 Emmerdale (r). (Teletext) (1969089)
1.25 Home and Away. (Teletext) (40816850)
1.55 Gardener's Diary. John Ravenscroft presents tips on how to revive old houseplants and grow young plants under glass (s) (26521992)
2.25 A Country Practice. Mr Epstein is confronted by a handcuffed doctor and a piglet. (s) (87865756)
2.50 TV Weekly. Eamonn Holmes with the latest news and gossip from the world of television (s) (3165282)
3.20 News (Teletext) and weather (7865640) **3.25 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (7864911)
3.30 Children's ITV: Allsorts (7890640) (s) **3.40 Tots TV** (s) (7034534) **3.50 Garfield and Friends** (6994027) **4.10 Wolf It.** Offbeat children's programme (Teletext) (s) (2768176) **4.40 Fun House** (7693195)
5.10 Home and Away (r). (Teletext) (5067195)
5.30 News (Teletext) and weather (895756)
6.00 London Tonight (Teletext) and weather (73534)
7.00 Emmerdale Someone finds room at the inn and an unexpected announcement takes the village by surprise (Teletext) (5379)
7.30 The Big Story (s) (805)
8.00 The Bill A one-man crusade to fight crime is becoming more trouble than the original offences. (Teletext) (4027)
8.30 Minder: One Flew Over the Parents' Nest. Arthur *Daley tries to rent his friend's house to a girl in trouble* unfortunately, her trouble is with the police. (Teletext) (s) (34350)

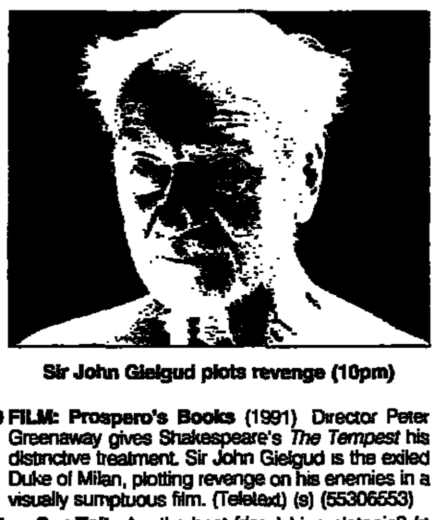


Operation Cathedral detectives (9.30pm)

9.30 CHOICE **Scotland Yard: The Obscene Publications Squad.** (Teletext) (85379)
10.00 News at Ten (Teletext) and weather (58737)
10.30 London Tonight (Teletext) and weather (902911)
10.40 Just a Minute. A television adaptation of the popular radio panel game (s) (260331)
11.10 Big City. A regional leisure guide with Gordon *Kennedy and Carolyn Marshall (s)* (361640)
11.40 FILM: Stand Up Virgin Soldiers (1977) starring Robin Askwith. Coarse and inferior sequel to the original *Virgin Soldiers.* British National Servicemen in Singapore are still chasing the girls. Directed by Norman Cohen (383263)
1.30 Donahue. A discussion on hypochondria (78995)
2.30 The Beat (r) (s) (11954)
3.30 Quiz Night Pub and club competition (93225)
4.00 The Album Show (r) (s) (32461)
5.00 Videofashion (r) (26428)
5.30 ITN Morning News (81206) Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.35 Starcom (r) (5227843)
7.00 The Big Breakfast (18756)
9.00 You Bet Your Life. Game show (r) (s) (68114)
9.30 Schools: Middle English: Shakespeare *Romeo and Juliet* (6864089) **9.46** Mathematical Eye (6935350) **10.07** Scientific Eye (5431621) **10.28** Geographical Eye: Over Europe (3188669) **10.52** Schools at Work (8316447) **11.00** History in Action: *Hypotheticals* (3130824) **11.22** The Microclass (6676973) **11.40** The French Programme (5943992)
12.00 House to House. Maya Even presents news and interviews with politicians from the Palace of Westminster (48350)
12.30 Sesame Street. Early learning entertainment (11911) **1.30 Alfred J. Kwak** Animation (r) (95756)
2.00 FILM: *Moon over Miami* (1941). Engaging musical with Betty Grable and Carole Landis as Texan sisters who land in Florida in search of rich husbands. Directed by Walter Lang (471060)
3.40 The Swimming Lesson. Short film about an ageing beauty who hires a young lifeguard to teach her to swim (r) (7885718)
3.55 Travelog visits Lillehammer in Norway, site of this year's Winter Olympics, and Sydney, venue for the Games in 2000 (r). (Teletext) (s) (4337176)
4.30 Countdown. Words and numbers game (Teletext) (s) (718)
5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show. Oprah draws on the theme of the film, *Sleepless in Seattle*, in which a widower finds true love at the top of the Empire *State Building, to bring together men and women* from across America for dates (Teletext) (s) (4034447) **5.50 Laurel and Hardy** (513027)
6.00 The Crystal Maze. Richard O'Brien challenges more contestants to pit their wits against the clock to collect the prized crystals (r) (s) (71176)
7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) and weather (128945) **7.50 Comment** (Teletext) (215553)
8.00 Eat Your Greens. Leeks, garlic and shallots Sophie Grigson is shown how to prepare leek pudding by the wife of a prize leek-grower. She also makes an unusual dish of creamed leeks with orange, cooks a baked head of garlic and finds out how to make shallot confiture (r). (Teletext) (2669)
8.30 The Pulse. Shahnaz Pakravan presents three related reports from Newcastle on the effects of NHS reforms on hospitals. Includes an interview with Sir Bernard Tomlinson. (Teletext) (1176)
9.00 CHOICE **Secret History: White Lies** (Teletext) (s) (1027)



Sir John Gielgud plots revenge (10pm)

10.00 FILM: Prospero's Books (1991) Director Peter Greenaway gives Shakespeare's *The Tempest* his distinctive treatment. Sir John Gielgud is the exiled Duke of Milan, plotting revenge on his enemies in a visually sumptuous film. (Teletext) (s) (55306553)
12.25am Sex Talk. Are the best friendships platonic? (r) (5174041)
1.10 Dispatches (r). (Teletext) (7288480)
2.00 Daughters of the Country. The penultimate episode of the drama serial tracing the history of Canada (r) (4723041). Ends at **3.00**

RADIO 1

FM Stereo and MW. **4.00am** Bruno Brookes (FM only) **7.00** Steve Wright **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.00** Emma Freud **2.00** Mark Goodier in the Afternoon **4.00** Nicky Campbell **7.00** Evening Session **9.00** The Guest List **10.00** Mark Radcliffe live from Manchester **12.00-4.00am** Lynn Parsons (FM only)

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **6.00am** Sarah Kennedy **6.15** Pause for Thought **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.15** Pause for Thought **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Jimmy Young **2.00pm** Gloria Hunniford **3.30** *Paul Coia* **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** The Reluctant Jester: Michael Bentine entertains with stories of his life (1/6) (r) **7.30** Wally Whyton **9.00** Paul Jones **10.00** Reading Music **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Steve Madden **3.00-6.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5

6.00am World Service **6.30** Morning Edition **9.00** Schools: Let's Make a Story; **9.15** Together: An Assembly for Schools; **9.35** Listen and Read 2; **9.45** Letter Box; **9.55** Poetry Corner; **10.05** In the News **10.25** Johnnie Walker with the AM Alternative **12.30pm** Personal Best **1.10** The Crunch **2.30** BFBS Worldwide **4.05** *John Inverdale's Drive-In* **6.30** The Swish of the Curtain (2/4) **7.15** The Sword in the Stone (9/10) **7.30** Formula Five **8.00** Vibe **9.00** Klub Kulture **9.30** Brighton Rock (4/5) **10.10** Eastern Beat **12.00-12.10am** News; Sport

WORLD SERVICE

All times in **GMT. 4.30am** BBC English **4.45** News and Press Review in German **5.00** Morgenmagazin: Tips für Touristen **5.30** Europe Today **6.00** World News **6.10** British News **6.15** The World Today **6.30** Europe Today **7.00** Newsdesk **7.30** Network UK **8.00** World News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** Good Books **8.30** John Peel **9.00** World News **9.05** World Business Report **9.15** From Our Own Correspondent **9.30** The Farming World **9.45** Sports Roundup **10.00** News Summary **10.01** Assignment **10.30** J. Kingston Platt **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** BBC English **11.45** Mittagsmagazin: News in German **Noon** World News **12.10pm** Words of Faith **12.15** Multitrack 2 **12.45** Sports Roundup **1.00** *Newshour* **2.00** World News **2.05** Outlook **2.30** Off the Shelf: *Witchbroom* **2.45** The Learning World **3.00** World News **3.15** Ray on Record **4.00** World News **4.10** British News **4.15** BBC English **4.30** Heute Aktuell: News in German **5.00** World News **5.05** World Business Report **5.15** BBC English **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** Heute Aktuell: News in *German* **7.00** *Nachrichten* **7.05** Kaleidoskop **8.00** World News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** The World Today **8.30** Europe Today **9.00** Newshour **10.00** World News **10.10** British News **10.15** Network UK **10.45** Sports Roundup **11.00** World News **11.05** World Business Report **11.15** Music Review **Midnight** Newsdesk **12.30am** The Story of Western Music **1.00** World News **1.05** Outlook **1.30** On the Move **1.45** Global Concerns **2.00** Newsdesk **2.30** Cat's Whiskers **3.00** World News **3.10** British News **3.15** Sports Roundup **3.30** Focus on Faith **4.00** World News **4.15** Sharp Talents

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Bailey **9.00** Robert Booth **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto: Boccherini (Cello Concerto in B flat) **3.00** Petroc Trelawny **6.00** Margaret Howard **7.00** The Travel Guide **8.00** Evening Concert: A gala Mozart birthday concert from the Queen Elizabeth Hall, London. String *Quartet* in D; Duo in G for violin and viola, K423; Oboe Quartet in F, K370; Clarinet Quintet in A, K581 **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00-6.00am** Jamie Crick

VIRGIN 1215

6.00am Russ and Jono **10.00** Richard Skinner **1.00pm** Graham Dene **4.00** Wendy Lloyd **7.00** Mitch Johnson **10.00** Nick Abbot **2.00-4.00am** Paul Coyte

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA
As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (13951466) **2.20** TV Weekly (87857737) **2.50-3.20** The Young Doctors (3165282) **5.10-5.40** Take the High Road (5067195) **6.00** Home and Away (886485) **6.25-7.00** Anglia Weather and Anglia News (283805) **10.30** Anglia News and Weather (902911) **10.40** Anglia Tonight (260331) **11.10** Phoenix (989783) **12.10am** The Powers That Be (2413645) **12.35** Bodies of Evidence (2772022) **1.30** Superstars of Wrestling (9580138) **2.10** America's Top Ten (6200954) **2.40** The Case of the Howling Dog (1395916) **3.55** Jobfinder (8759596) **4.30** Night Shift (36729770) **4.35-5.30** Cue the Music (2625596)

CENTRAL
As London except: 1.55 Shortland Street (13951466) **2.20** TV Weekly (87857737) **2.50-3.20** A Country Practice (3165282) **5.10-5.40** Gardening Time (5067195) **6.00** Home and Away (886485) **6.25** Central News and Weather (961176) **6.55-7.00** Life Line (950391) **10.40** Trials *of Rosie O'Neill* (897805) **11.40** The Omen (501094) **1.40am** The Little Picture Show (1907935) **2.40** Noisy Mothers (6553577) **3.35** Jobfinder (6411480) **4.50** Quiz Night (94452935) **5.20-5.30** Asian Eye (4506041)

HTV WEST
As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (13951466) **2.20** TV Weekly (87857737) **2.50-3.20** The Young Doctors (3165282) **6.00** HTV News (669) **6.30-7.00** Special Report (621) **10.40** Face Value (430669) **11.25** Rock Sport (970447) **11.40** Prisoner Cell Block H (305669) **12.35am** Bodies of Evidence (2772022) **1.30** Superstars of Wrestling (9580138) **2.10** America's Top Ten (6200954) **2.40** The Case of the Howling Dog (1395916) **3.55** Jobfinder (8759596) **4.30** Night Shift (36729770) **4.35-5.30** Cue the Music (2625596)

HTV WALES
As HTV WEST except: 6.00-6.30 Wales at Six (669) **7.30-8.00** Wales This Week (805) ***10.30-10.40*** *HTV Wales News and Weather* (902911) **11.10-11.40** Wales and Westminster (361640)

MERIDIAN
As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (13951466) **2.20** TV Weekly (87857737) **2.50-3.20** Shortland Street (3165282) **6.00** Meridian Tonight (669) **6.30-7.00** Getaways (621) **10.30** Meridian News and Weather (902911) **10.40** Who Dares Wins (73710350) **12.55am-1.30** Coach (4094374)

TYNE TEES
As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (13951466) **2.20** TV Weekly (87857737) **2.50** The Young Doctors (9694114) **5.55** Tyne Tees Today (216008) **6.30-7.00** Cross Wits (621) **10.40** Northern Eye (430669) **11.25** Prisoner Cell Block H (328485) **12.20am** C.A.T. Squad - Python Wolf (471157) **2.05** America's Top Ten (6201683) **2.35** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (8295515) **3.05** Whistling in Brooklyn (427683) **4.40-5.30** Jobfinder (1184886)

WESTCOUNTRY
As London except: 1.55 The Sullivans (26521992) **2.25-2.55** TV Weekly (87856008) **3.25-3.30** Westcountry Latest (7864911) **6.00-7.00** Westcountry Live (73534) **10.30** Westcountry Latest (902911) ***10.40*** *Westcountry Focus* (260331) **11.10** Prisoner Cell Block H (390602) **12.05am** Coach (3282751) **12.30** My Story (4725751) **12.35** Bodies of Evidence (2772022) **1.30** Superstars of Wrestling (9580138) **2.10** America's Top Ten (6200954) **2.40** The Case of the Howling Dog (1395916) **3.55** Jobfinder (8759596) **4.30** Night Shift (36729770) **4.35-5.30** Cue the Music (2625596)

YORKSHIRE
As London except: 9.55-10.00 Calendar News and Weather (5424331) **12.20pm-12.30** Yorkshire: Calender News and Weather / Bisdale: Network North (2969553) **1.55** A Country Practice (13951466) **2.20** TV Weekly (87857737) **2.50** The Young Doctors (9694114) **3.15-3.20** Crusader Rabbit (7875027) **3.25-3.30** Yorkshire: Calendar News / Bisdale: Network North (7864911) **5.55** Calender / Network North (216008) **6.30-7.00** Cross Wits (621) **10.30** Calendar News and Weather (902911) **10.40** Edit V (430669) **11.25** Prisoner Cell Block H (328485) **12.20am** C.A.T. Squad - Python Wolf (471157) **2.05** America's Top Ten (6201683) **2.35** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (8295515) **3.05** Whistling in Brooklyn (427683) **4.40-5.30** Jobfinder (1184886)

S4C
Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (18756) **9.00** You Bet Your Life (68114) **9.30** Yagolion/schools (229737) **12.00pm** House To House (48350) **12.30** Slot Meithrin (56485) **1.00** *Travelog* (11843) ***1.30*** *Putting* Art In Its Place Along The Tracks (95756) **2.00** Upstairs And Downstairs (117350) **3.50** Three Fools And The Car (7021060) **4.00** Slot 23 (8060) **5.00** The Cosby Show I'm With The In Crowd (6485) **5.30** Countdown (398) **6.00** Newyddion 6/ News (957447) **6.20** Cwlwm Serch (859466) **6.25** Heno (281447) **7.00** Pobol Y Cwm (6821) **7.30** Trecor (447) **8.00** Rebecca Evans (2669) **8.30** Newyddion/news (1176) **9.00** Taro Naw (4244) **9.30** The Pulse (76621) **10.00** Cae Man's War (418263) **11.40** Nurses Sing Of Hearts (510114) **12.10am** Undercover Britain: Living In Fear (3200157) **12.40** Karachi Cops (8381480)

RADIO 3

6.55am Weather
7.00 On Air: Mendelssohn (Song without Words, Op 53 No 5); Vivaldi (Concerto in C, RV558, Con molti stromenti); MacCunn (The Land of the Mountain and the Flood); Saint-Saëns (*Allegro Giocoso* in A minor, Op 150 No 7); Schoenberg (Galathea; Gigerlette; Cabaret Songs); Mozart (Piano Concerto No 21 in C, K467)
9.00 Composer of the Week: Josquin. The Tallis Scholars perform Missa La sol fa re mi, *together with influential works* from Josquin's maturity
10.00 Musical Encounters: Schubert (Overture in the Italian Style, D591); Artist of the Week: Lily Laskine, harp, plays Mozart (Concerto in C for flute and harp, K299); **10.45** Howells (Walking in the Snow; The Scribe); *Ives* (Crossing the Bar; Variations on America); Harris (Symphony for Voices); **11.25** Berwald (Symphony No 3 in C, Symphonie singulière)
12.00 Ensemble: Reinecke (Trio in A minor); Mendelssohn (Konzertstück in D minor, Op 114); Beethoven (Quintet in E flat) (r)
1.00pm News 1.05 Opera Matinée: English Chamber Orchestra under Marcello Viotti performs two one-act comic operas written by 20-year-old Rossini for Venice: *L'inganno Felice* (The Happy Deception) and *La Scala di Seta* (The Silken Ladder)
4.20 Brodsky Quartet performs Tchaikovsky (String Quartet No 3 in E flat minor, Op 30)
5.00 The Music Machine: Tommy Pearson talks to 15-year-old violinist Vanessa-Mae
5.15 In Tune: Rodney Slatford's guest is the violinist Lydia Mordkovitch. Chopin (Polonaise in A, Op 40 No 1); Respighi (Autumn Poem); Sibelius (Prelude, The Tempest)
7.30 London Philharmonic, live from the Festival Hall, London. Franz Welser-Möst conducts Jonathan Lloyd (Tolerance); Saint-Saëns (Violin Concerto No 3 in B minor: Frank Peter Zimmermann). **8.15** Stephen Johnson examines Stravinsky's *revision of some of his major* works. **8.35** Stravinsky (Petrushka — 1947 version)
9.25 The Building Blocks of Science: See Choice
9.45 Classical Guitar Festival of Great Britain 1993: The opening recital by flamenco guitarist Juan Martin. Rumba; *Minera;* Guajira; Solea *por medio;* Fandango, Luna Negra; Rumba, Andalusian Suite
10.15 A Different Rhythm (r)
10.45 Night Waves: Humphrey Carpenter discusses *The Arabian Nights* plus a review of Caryl Churchill's new play, *The Striker*
11.30 Voices: A selection of settings of Scotland's national poet, Burns
12.30-12.35am News 1.00-2.25 Night School (except in Scotland: as Radio 5 at 9am)

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping **6.00** News Briefing, incl **6.03** Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today, incl **6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **6.55, 7.55** Weather **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.40** *Yesterday in Parliament* **8.58** Weather
9.00 News 9.05 Face the Facts, with John Waite (r)
9.30 The Unfamiliar Family: Facing the Future. Glenys Kinnock asks whether politics can adapt to meet changes facing the western family
10.00 Jane and Prudence (FM only): Dramatisation of Barbara Pym's sequel to *Crampton Hodnet*
10.00 News; Daily Service (LW only)
10.15 The Bible (LW only): Luke (6/12)
10.30 Woman's Hour: Sheila Paine talks about her search for ancient Afghan amulet embroideries. Incl **11.00 News**
11.30 From Our Own Correspondent
12.00 News; You and Yours, with Tasneem Siddiqi
12.25pm Kelly's Heroes: The Broadcaster (r) **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World at One, with James Naughtie
1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping
2.00 News; The Death of Ivan Ilyich: Anton Lesser stars in *Leo Tolstoy's classic tale*
3.00-4.00 News; Soapbox (FM only): David Mellor's guests are Rosie Boycott, Nick Hornby and Professor Norman Stone
3.00 Prime Minister's Questions (LW only), live from Westminster
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope: reviews *The Age of Innocence,* Martin Scorsese's adaptation of the novel by Edith Wharton; and Jonathan Miller talks about his new production of *Der Rosenkavalier*
4.45 Short Story: The Garden of Eden, by Eilís Ní Dhuibhne
5.00 PM *5.50 Shipping 5.55* Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 Darling You Were Marvellous: Celebrity panel show with Sandy Toksvig
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 Soundtrack: Partners in Crime: See Choice
8.00 Analysis: Whose Promised Land? Stuart Simon asks what lessons can be learnt about self-determination in the wake of the Gaza-Jericho accord between Israel and the PLO
8.45 Does He Take Sugar? Presented by Ted Harrison.
9.15 Kaleidoscope (r)
9.45 The Financial World Tonight, with Roger White **9.59** Weather
10.00 The World Tonight, with Alexander MacLeod
10.45 Book at Bedtime: A Better Class of Person. Peter Egan reads from John Osborne's autobiography (9/10)
11.00 The Comedians: Dramatisation of Graham Greene's novel (7/8) (r)
11.30 Today in Parliament
12.00-12.43am News, incl **12.27** Weather **12.33** Shipping **12.43** As World Service (LW only)

RADIO CHOICE

Soundtrack: Partners in Crime. *Radio 4, 7.20pm.*
Radio 4's resumed series of documentaries in which the narrator is rendered redundant, comes up with a hard-hitting report that is bad news for brutes who batter their women. Victims now have recourse to the domestic violence units run by the police. *Partners in Crime* focuses on a unit operating in London's East End. A phone call or the push of an alarm button linking the victim with police HQ, activates the women PCs who staff the unit. Yet, some victims still prefer a slap in the face to the fear-free alternative. This apparent paradox is persuasively explained.

Building Blocks of Science. *Radio 3, 9.25pm.*
The earliest surviving photograph is of a window in Lacock Abbey, the Wiltshire home of Henry Fox Talbot. He took it in 1835, and it measures approximately one inch square. It was as modestly as this that the history of modern photography began. Paul Murdin's mini-life of Fox Talbot may not put much flesh on his bones, but the lucid scientific context in which Murdin places Fox Talbot's pioneering work is adequate compensation. **Peter Davalle**



LUNCHTIME CONCERTO 2PM.
BOCCHERINI - CELLO CONCERTO IN B MAJOR
CLASSIC FM 100-102

SATELLITE

SKY ONE
6.00am DJ Kat (89658756) **8.40** Lamb Chops (7871669) **9.10** Cartoons (2586805) **9.30** Card Sharks (10089) **9.55** Concentration (9429263) **10.25** Dynamo Duck *(6858718)* ***10.30*** *Love at First Sight* (73060) **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (44195) **12.00** Urban Peasant (97640) **12.30pm** Paradise Beach (14805) **1.00** Barnaby Jones (80260) **2.00** Hollywood Wives (12008) **3.00** Another World (6270843) **3.45** DJ Kat (2863350) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (4682) **6.00** Games World (3605) **6.30** Paradise Beach (7495) **7.00** M*A*S*H (1331) **7.30** Rescue (3669) **8.00** 21 Jump Street (70485) **9.00** LA *Law* (50621) **10.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (60008) **11.00** Untouchables (25060) **12.00** Streets of San Francisco (57312) **1.00am** Night Court (46867) **1.30-2.00** Maniac Mansion (66119)

SKY NEWS
News on the hour **6.00am** Sunrise (44756) **8.30** Nightline (49379) **10.30** Beyond 2000 (98914) **11.30** *Japan Business Today* (71282) **12.30pm** News/Business Report (88850) **1.30** CBS News (10379) **2.30** Parliament Live (34602) **3.30** Parliament Live (52843) **4.30** News/Business Report (3282) **5.00** Live at Five (402008) **7.30** Reporters (4911) **9.30** Talkback (25911) **11.30** CBS News (57468) **12.30am** ABC News (61193) **1.30** Reporters (54119) **2.30** Beyond 2000 (47595) **3.30** Talkback (97060) **4.30** Report-*ers (75150)* ***5.30-6.00*** *CBS News* (47888)

SKY MOVIES
6.10am Showcase (29545244)
10.00 Quelmada! (1969). Marlon Brando incites a rebellion in the Caribbean (18621)
12.00 Paper Lion (1968): George Plimpton's honorary membership of the Detroit Lions. With Alan Alda (19911)
2.00pm The Turning Point (1977): Rival ballerinas have a prickly reunion (44060)
4.00 Grayeagle (1978). A man searches for his daughter's kidnapper (5534)
6.00 The Long Walk Home (1989). Sissy Spacek and her black maid, Whoopi Goldberg, form an unlikely friendship (64824)
8.00 Miss Rose White (1992) Two sisters are reunited after 22 years apart (76669)
10.00 Better Off Dead (1979): A lawyer befriends a prostitute (314973)
11.35 Beneath The Valley of the Ultra Vixens (1979): Soft-core comedy (531973)
1.15am Young Lady Chatterley (1976). A girl follows her aunt's example (599428)
3.00 Black Death (1992): Kate Jackson battles against bubonic plague (647080)
4.35 The Long Walk Home (as 6pm) (8779596) Ends at **6.10**

SKY MOVIES GOLD
6.00pm The Harder They Fall (1956, b/w): Humphrey Bogart exposes corruption in the boxing ring (26602)
8.00 Chisum (1970): Cattle barons feud in turn-of-the-century New Mexico (38447)
10.00 Exorcist 2: The Heretic (1977): Richard Burton dons his dog collar to help Linda Blair (13640). Ends at **11.55**

THE MOVIE CHANNEL
6.00am Mrs Lambert Remembers Love (1991). An elderly woman takes in her orphaned grandson (63330176)
7.50 Tommy Tricker and the Stamp Traveller (1987) Canadian children search for a priceless stamp collection (24449973)
9.40 The Pride and the Passion (1957). Cary Grant helps Frank Sinatra to steal a giant cannon (35607244)
11.50 Bundle of Joy (1956): A shop assistant discovers a baby (89134447)
1.30pm King Lear (1971): Paul Scofield stars in Shakespeare's tragedy (765089)
4.00 Tommy Tricker and the Stamp Traveller (as 7.50am) (75734896)
5.45 Hamlet (1990). Mel Gibson stars as the troubled Prince of Denmark (36709263)
8.00 Chrome Soldiers (1992): Vietnam veterans investigate a friend's murder (67911)
10.00 Kickboxer II: The Road Back (1991): Martial arts (345843)
11.35 The Perfect Bride (1991) Grisly murder drama (62843)
1.15am Immortal Sins (1991): A couple *inherit a haunted Spanish castle* (924577)
2.45 Gumshoe (1972): Albert Finney turns private eye when he finds a body (947428)
4.15 Mrs Lambert Remembers Love (as 6am) (963490). Ends at **5.45**

SKY SPORTS
7.00am Soccer (4055027) **7.15** Prime Bodies (174195) **7.45** Trucks 'n' Tractors (173466) **8.15** Soccer (6422756) **8.30** Australian Open Tennis (8997379) **1.00pm** *Netbusters* (54892824) ***1.15*** *Sportsworld* (1958447) **2.00** Boxing (19398) **4.00** Football Show (64350) **5.00** USA Football (5244) **6.00** Soccer (653244) **6.15** Netbusters (681027) **6.30** Surfing (1843) **7.00** Boots 'n' All (14843) **8.00** Supercross (90263) **9.00** Boot Room (10027) **10.00** Soccer (187027) **10.15-1.00am** Australian Open Tennis (24255089)

EUROSPORT
7.30am Step Aerobics (80911) **8.00** Figure Skating (38060) **10.00** Eurogolf (86195) **11.00** Acrobatics (66331) **12.00** Freestyle Skiing (37843) **1.00pm** Snooker (52640) **3.00** Ice Hockey (70911) **4.00** Motors (66718) **5.00** Olympics (1805) **5.30** Euroski (11263) **6.30** News (8911) **7.00** Basketball (81640) **9.00** Boxing (94945) **10.00** Formula One Review (44422) **11.00** Stock Car Racing *(87824)* ***12.00-12.30am*** *News* (60751)

UK GOLD
7.00am Sullivans (1037718) **7.30** Neighbours (1049553) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (7978534) **8.30** EastEnders (7977805) **9.00** The Bill (7991485) **9.30** Onedin Line (6179737) **10.30** Bergerac (6507992) **11.30** Sullivans (7053350) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (7971621) **12.30pm** Neighbours (9263466) **1.00** EastEnders (1036089) **1.30** The Bill (9262737) **2.00** For Love of Ada (5807060) **2.30** Mother Makes Three (1192027) **3.00** Dallas (7064466) **4.00** Colbys (7773244) **4.55** Blankety Blank (57446756) **5.25** Give Us a Clue (62014737) **5.55** Sykes (1104843) **6.30** EastEnders (1184008) **7.00** Survivors (2586114) **8.00** For Love of Ada (5827824) **8.30** And Mother Makes Three (5606331) **9.00** Bergerac (3582398) **10.00** The Bill (7972350) **10.30** Innes Book of Records (7998398) **11.00** Top of the Pops (6984909) **11.40** Dr Who (2616224) **12.10am** FILM: Gang Busters (1955, b/w) Convicts plan an escape (45254585) **1.25** Videos (3861003) **2.15-7.00am** Shopping (43758111)

THE CHILDREN'S CHANNEL
6.00am *RatKan II* (59114) *6.30 Bobobobs* (53466) **7.00** Bears Island (3261244) **7.20** Return of Dogtanian (723485) **7.45** Pugwall (722756) **8.15** Head to Head (8150060) **8.20** Teddy Ruxpin (11331) **9.00** Drobee Time (54195) **11.00** RatKan II (22398) **11.30** Bobobobs (29027) **12.00** Bears Island (8252379) **12.20pm** Return of Dogtanian (321176) **12.45** Pugwall (320447) **1.15** Head to Head (55334992) **1.30** Teddy Ruxpin (64911) **2.00** Madeline (9911) **2.30** Cupido (1979282) **2.45** Babar (333911) **3.15** RatKan II (8831640) **3.20** Baby Follies (6267805) **3.40** Rude Dog and the Dweebs (4290737) **3.55** Head to Head (8999992) **4.00** White Fang (2114) **4.30-5.00** T-Rex (8398)

NICKELODEON
7.00am Dawn Patrol (74350) **7.30** Guts (93485) **8.00** Rugrats (94640) **8.30** Fraggle Rock (93911) **9.00** Out of Control (84263) **9.30** Kablooey (27466) **10.00** Gnomes (44621) **10.30** We All Have Tales (80447) **11.00** Cartoons (71640) **11.30** Wild Side Show (89669) **12.00** Bananas in Pyjamas (63517) **12.30pm** David the Gnome (21282) **1.00** Storytime (73621) **1.30** Eureeka's Castle (52379) **2.30** Fraggle Rock (4176) **3.00** Cartoons (2534) **3.30** Speed Racer (9621) **4.00** Teenage M.H. Turtles (8756) **4.30** Get the Picture (7640) **5.00** Clarissa (4379) **5.30** Guts (8992) **6.00** Rugrats (5805) **6.30-7.00** The Monkees (9485)

DISCOVERY
4.00pm Global Family (1174621) **4.30** *Durrell in Russia* (1170805) ***5.00*** *Dangerous* Earth (581508) **6.00** Only in Hollywood (4029447) **6.05** Beyond 2000 (1982973) **7.00** A Traveller's Guide to the Orient (5816718) **7.30** Big City Metro (1171534) **8.00** Curse of the Pharaohs (5825466) **8.30** Pirates (5804973) **9.00** Elite Fighting Forces (3573640) **10.00** Wildside (3583027) **11.00-12.00** Mind of a Serial Killer (1044008)

BRAVO
12.00 Mary Hartman, Mary Hartman (7973089) **12.30pm** FILM: The Countess of Monte Cristo (1948, b/w). Two girls pose as royals (8764195) **2.00** FILM: The Fighting Sullivans (1944, b/w): Five brothers serve in the Second World War (3576737) **4.00** The Flying Nun (1178447) **4.30** My Three Sons (1167331) **5.00** Beverly Hillbillies (5823008) **5.30** Donny and Marie (1181911) **6.00** Saber *of London* (1188824) ***6.30*** *The Man from* Interpol (1179176) **7.00** Dan August (3571282) **8.00** FILM: Girl of the Night (1960, b/w): Anne Francis as a prostitute, talks to a psychiatrist (11518244) **9.55** FILM: The House in Nightmare Park (1973): An actor gives a reading in a haunted house (9849485) **11.30-12.00** Twilight Zone (1394260)

UK LIVING
7.00am Living (3796027) **8.00** Family Affairs (9081718) **8.30** Bon Voyage (9080089) **9.00** Days of Our Lives (7807553) **10.00** Dr Ruth (3261973) **10.30** Young and the Restless (8818718) **11.30** Madhur Jaffrey (3506244) **12.00** Stars and Signs (61708843) **12.15pm** Living (21548814) **12.30** Housecalls (6973621) **1.00** Bazaar (7213553) **1.30** Bon Voyage (6972992) **2.00** Agony Hour (3262602) **3.00** Living (8599379) **3.45** Gladrags (36746263) **4.00** Definition (7768089) **4.30** Infatuation (7755973) **5.00** Music Quest (5542282) **5.30** Fame and Fortune (8190379) **5.45** Kilroy (4197534) **6.30** Delia Smith (7767718) **7.00** Material World (5539718) **7.30** That's Amore (7756602) **8.00** Young and the Restless (5023602) **9.00** FILM: Stacy's Knights *(1983). A woman plots a gambling sting* (5033089) **11.00** That's Amor (3520824) **11.30** Infatuation (3290485) **12.00-1.00am** Agony Hour (3743935)

FAMILY CHANNEL
5.00pm Wonder Years (9373) **5.30** Black Stallion (2350) **6.00** Where I Live (9263) **6.30** Catchphrase (3843) **7.00** The Pyramid Game (9517) **7.30** All Clued Up (9027) **8.00** Cats Eyes (30805) **9.00** Lou Grant (50669) **10.00** Trivial Pursuit (23176) **10.30** Evening Shade (32824) **11.00** Remington Steele (83195) **12.00-1.00am** Big Valley (31312)

MTV
6.00am Awake on the Wild Side (169447) **9.00** Ingo (895089) **12.00** Greatest Hits (53805) **1.00pm** Simone (957008) **3.30** The *Report* (4266911) ***3.45*** *At the Movies* (4261466) **4.00** News (7420114) **4.15** 3 from 1 (7410737) **4.30** Dial MTV (8076) **5.00** Soul (2621) **5.30** Music Non-Stop (13843) **7.00** UB40 Special (2485) **7.30** UB40 The Hits (56060) **8.30** Beavis and Butt-Head (4440) **9.00** Greatest Hits (52027) **10.00** The Report (956244) **10.15** At the Movies (984027) **10.30** News (737689) **10.45** 3 from 1 (725824) **11.00** Party Zone (64553) **1.00am** Marqne (24732) **2.00-6.00** Videos (8992515)

TV ASIA
6.00am Persian Dawn (46850) **7.00** News (61973) **7.30** Asian Morning (80008) **8.00** Hindi News (49114) **8.30** Urdu News (1449398) **8.45** English News (1437553) **9.00** Janmdate (22060) **10.00** Hindi FILM (884973) **1.00pm** Manoranjan (60244) **1.30** Hindi FILM (701176) **4.30** Kiddie Time (5824) **5.00-6.00** Your Dedications (6824) **7.00** New Serial (12485) **8.00** English News (375669) **8.15** Hindi FILM (39908089) **11.15** Serial (575331) **12.05am** Five Past Midnight (2707867) **1.35-6.00** Sight and Sound (37208119)

TNT
Tonight's Theme: A Tribute to Donna Reed
7.00pm Green Dolphin Street (1947, b/w): Sisters fall for the same man (85227973)
9.45 Ransom (1955, b/w) Glenn Ford tries to rescue his kidnapped son (14332718)
11.45 Gentle Annie (1944, b/w): A woman and her sons turn to stealing (59677553)
1.15am The Human Comedy (1943, b/w) Mickey Rooney as a telegram boy (73531119)
3.25 Apache Trail (1942, b/w) Two brothers prepare for an Indian uprising. With Lloyd Nolan (35935480) Ends at **4.30**

CNN
Twenty-four hour news programmes

CMT
Country music from midnight to 4pm

QVC
Home shopping channel

RADIO 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/275m; FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2: FM 88-90.2. RADIO 3: FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4: 198kHz/1515m; FM 92.4-94.6. RADIO 5: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. LBC: 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. CAPITAL: 1548kHz/194m; FM 95.8. GLR: FM 94.9; WORLD SERVICE: MW 648kHz/463m. CLASSIC FM: FM 100-102. VIRGIN: MW 1215, 1197, 1242 kHz.

COMPILED BY PETER DEAR AND GILLIAN MAXEY

Venables and FA continue talking

By Keith Pike

TWO months of intrigue, speculation and occasional disinformation could end tomorrow with the appointment of Terry Venables as the England football coach and the naming of his counterpart in Wales. If it happens, it will not be a moment too soon.

Venables was believed to be continuing his discussions with Graham Kelly, the chief executive of the Football Association, yesterday and the popular theory remained that a formal offer of a contract for 2½ years would be made — and accepted. While FA officials will make an announcement at Wembley tomorrow at 2pm, such are the dilemmas on either side of the negotiating table, that it could yet prove to be a dangerous assumption.

Whoever is appointed, and on whatever terms, will have Germany, the world champions, as his second opponents after all. The match, scheduled to be played in Hamburg on April 20 — the anniversary of Hitler's birth — but called off because of fears it could provoke neo-Nazi demonstrations, has now been switched to the Olympic Stadium in Berlin.

The Welsh, too, could be in a position to reveal their manager tomorrow. "We live in hope," Alun Evans, chief executive of the Football Association of Wales (FAW), said. "I am hoping something might be done on Friday."

A meeting of the FAW international committee is due to be held this afternoon, but Evans said that the managerial vacancy, caused when Terry Yorath's contract expired on December 31, is not on the agenda. He would neither confirm nor deny reports that he had just returned from Spain and a meeting with a prospective successor, John Toshack, the former Wales forward who is midway through a five-year term as coach of Real Sociedad.

Bobby Robson, the former England manager who last month rejected an approach by the FAW, was yesterday appointed coach of FC Porto, the Portuguese champions. Dismissed by Sporting Lisbon in December, Robson replaces Tomislav Ivic, who resigned on Tuesday to take up a coaching position with Fifa, the world governing body.

Erik Thorstvedt, the Tottenham Hotspur and Norway goalkeeper, will not play again for two months after damaging the cruciate ligament in his right knee, but is hopeful of recovering in time to play in the World Cup finals.

"It is obviously bad news, but I am relieved because I thought it might have been far worse," Thorstvedt said after exploratory surgery had revealed the extent of the injury, suffered during the FA Carling Premiership game against Swindon Town on Saturday. "Apparently, it is the back part of the ligament that is damaged and nothing is severed. I'm told there should be no need for further surgery."

Thorstvedt's absence is the latest setback for Osvaldo Ardiles, the Tottenham manager, who has been deprived of Teddy Sheringham, Gary Mabbutt and David Howells, all victims of long-term injuries. Yesterday, Ardiles completed the £250,000 transfer of Ronnie Rosenthal from Liverpool. Initial discussions with the Israel striker had broken down on Friday because of the player's personal demands.

Norwich City will not stand in Efan Ekoku's way as the striker attempts to earn a place in the Nigeria World Cup squad. Ekoku will miss three games for his club to play in the African nations' cup from March 25 to April 10.

Barnet, the second division club with debts of £1.7 million, have been given another two weeks to resolve their financial difficulties after a meeting with their creditors. "The future is more hopeful," David Buckler, the chairman, said.

Berlin date, page 2
Bolton prepare, page 40

Watkin profits from Atherton's gamble

From Andrew Longmore in St John's, Antigua

MIKE Atherton showed the welcome instinct of a gambler on the final day of the opening tour match against an Antigua XI in St John's yesterday. Contrary to the usual policy at this early stage of a tour of opting for batting practice, the England captain declared at lunch, with seven wickets still standing, to set the home side a distant but attainable target of 325 off a minimum of 65 overs in conditions still ideal for batting.

Given the poor showing of the England attack in the first innings, Atherton's decision showed surprising faith, but he was swayed by Watkin's sudden recovery from a back injury and, presumably, by the feeling that another hour of two of mayhem against a tiring Antigua attack was less meaningful than two sessions under pressure in the field. Perhaps, too, a touch of the Corinthian lies beneath that unflappable exterior, a belief that these games should be played with an eye to the present as well as the future.

Whatever his reasons, Atherton's choice was vindicated inside three overs, in which the irrepressible Watkin had removed Warner, caught low down at first slip by Thorpe, and the dangerous Dave Joseph, who edged to the wicketkeeper.

By the end of the third over, the Antigua XI were 15 for two and facing a long uphill struggle for survival, though Waldron, his hair cut like a Moroccan fez, punished Igglesden for anything loose, particularly through the offside. It is not in the nature of Antiguans to defend for long, however unpromising the circumstances.

Unlike Igglesden, who sacrificed accuracy for variety and paid for it, Watkin kept plugging away on off stump as he did so effectively for Glamorgan last summer, not trying anything fancy in his first bowl of the tour. That Watkin was on the field at all was a surprise. By all accounts, he had been ruled out of the remainder of this match after suffering a back spasm on the second day, but he felt much better yesterday morning and, having endured an extensive session in the nets, was passed fit.

He was further rewarded for his tenacity with a third wicket when Walsh was smartly picked up in the covers by Stewart, another who had risen from the physiotherapist's table. A regulation slip catch by Hick, which accounted for the effervescent Waldron and gave Igglesden his first wicket of the innings, and a second catch by Stewart, off Salisbury's first ball, put the islanders on the defensive. By tea, they had reached 93 for five and England were in sight of victory.

England's early declaration owed most to Hick, who carried on where he had left off the previous evening. Together with Thorpe, he added 182 in 42 overs and, though his century added little to our knowledge of Hick, it confirmed his reputation as a supreme mugger of mediocre bowling and gave his morale a precious lift. He will not kid himself that this was any real preparation for the salvoes to come from Ambrose and company, but Hick's psyche is delicate at the best of times and any runs will be welcome.

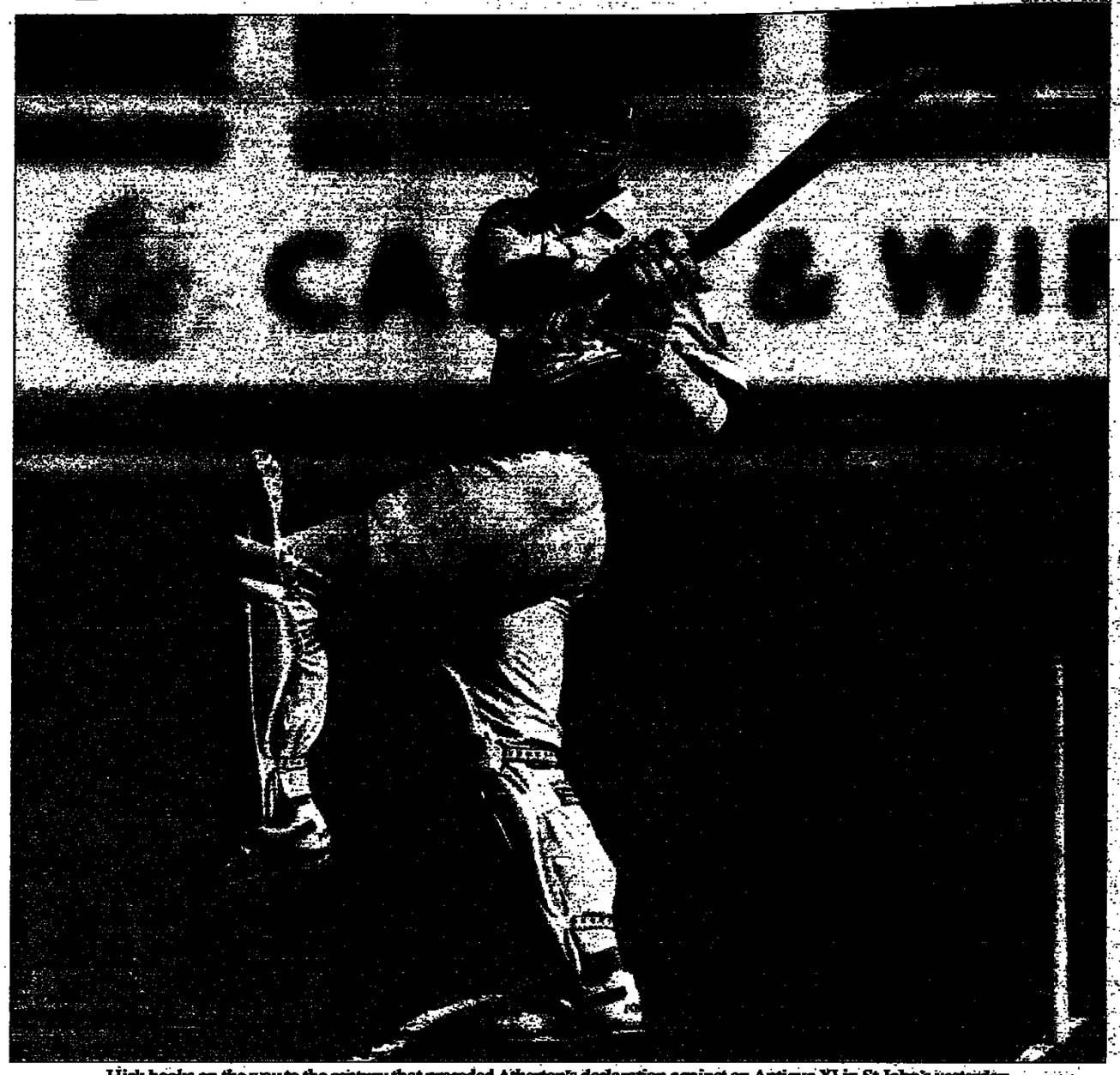
Admittedly, the Antiguans did not help their own cause. Hick was dropped twice, the first a straightforward catch to cover when he was 63, the second a more difficult running catch at deep long-off a little later, but, in between, he drove mightily and hooked tenaciously, making his 111 in just 126 balls with three sixes and 16 fours before lofting Simon to long-on.

The left-handed Thorpe played his part, accumulating rather than bludgeoning, never imitating Hick's fluency or suggesting that he was in prime touch but rarely looking in danger either. That might well be Thorpe's way. He gains his runs by stealth, without unnecessary flourish, and, after his failure in the first innings, he will be relieved to have some runs under his belt.

Of the batsmen on show here, only Hussain and Smith have missed out on a long innings and both will doubtless get another chance to find their rhythm in the game in St Kitts which starts on Saturday.

McCague omitted, page 42
Ovation for Border, page 42

GRAHAM MORRIS



Hick hooks on the way to the century that preceded Atherton's declaration against an Antigua XI in St John's yesterday

ENGLAND: First Innings 419 (M A Atherton 109, A J Stewart 100, A R Caddick 77; H Anthony 4 for 130).

Second Innings

*M A Atherton c sub b Challenger	7
G P Thorpe c Warner b Anthony	80
G A Hick c Smith b Simon	111
R A Smith not out	34
N Hussain not out	13
Extras (b 6, lb 7, w 2, nb 5)	20
Total (3 wkts dec)	265

FALL: 1-13, 2-195, 3-219.

BOWLING: Quinn 14-0-68-0; Challenger 14-5-30-1, Anthony 17-1-83-1; Smith 7-1-38-0; Simon 14-1-53-1.

ANTIGUA XI: First Innings 360 (M Simon 128, A R Caddick 5-106).

Second Innings

E Waldron c Hick b Igglesden	39
H Warner c Thorpe b Watkin	0
D Joseph c Russell b Watkin	4
A Walsh c Stewart b Watkin	10
*M Simon not out	26
H Anthony c Stewart b Salisbury	9
Extras	5
Total (5 wkts)	93

FALL: 1-5, 2-15, 3-41, 4-73, 5-93.

Celtic followers banned from Old Firm festivities



Murray: drastic action

By Kevin McCarra

RANGERS yesterday banned all Celtic supporters from Ibrox for the next Old Firm match on April 30. For the first time in the history of the fixture, there will be a one-sided cacophany. The step has been taken because Rangers are unwilling to accept the vandalism of visiting supporters and Celtic's refusal to pay for repairs.

Rangers claim that the damage caused at the last Old Firm match at the ground in October amounted, principally through the smashing of seats, to £7,800. They place the total for the last six of these games at £20,000. David Murray, the Rangers chairman, complained that correspondence stretching back to March 1992 has failed to shake Celtic's conviction that they are not liable for the behaviour of their supporters at another stadium.

Michael Kelly, a Celtic director, announced that the club still adheres to its policy: "It is not worthy of a great club such as Rangers to do this to thousands of innocent supporters. The principle we adopt is each club is in charge of stewarding its own stadium.

"We unreservedly condemn all vandalism, but the means to control hooligan behaviour already exists at Ibrox. There is adequate stewarding, policing and TV surveillance. The answer is to make more use of these resources."

Murray, however, is convinced draconian action was necessary. "This type of wanton vandalism can no longer be tolerated," he said.

Celtic have also complained of damage to their ground by Rangers supporters. However, the potential for destruction at Celtic Park is more limited. The away end is not seated and its concrete terracing and crash barriers are scarcely vulnerable. For the moment, though, there is no indication Celtic will also impose a ban.

Peter Donald, the secretary of the Scottish Football League, confirmed that the regulations do not prevent such action. It is only in the Scottish Cup that clubs are obliged to give 20 per cent of their capacity to followers of the visiting team.

The Celtic Supporters' Association (CSA) felt that Rangers' action has been peremptory. Gerry Madden, the CSA secretary, said that Rangers had not responded to their requests for video surveillance tapes that would allow them to identify culprits. He also offered to compensate the Ibrox club for future damage if they would place the ticket allocation solely in the hands of the association.

Peter Rafferty, of the Affiliation of Registered Celtic Supporters' Clubs, called for dialogue between Celtic and Rangers and pointed out that the extraordinary Old Firm occasion would be impaired if the ban goes ahead. He said: "All that is best about the passion of a football crowd is epitomised in the Old Firm match."

Rangers insist the ban is "indefinite", but the Scottish Football League has hinted the rules may be changed to protect the right of supporters to attend away matches. Celtic and Rangers can expect covert pressure from the authorities.

"Insist on a Californian brandy unless you're up to your neck in snow with a St. Bernard approaching."

CLINT CRAWFORD,
HOT DOG SKIER, CALIFORNIA.

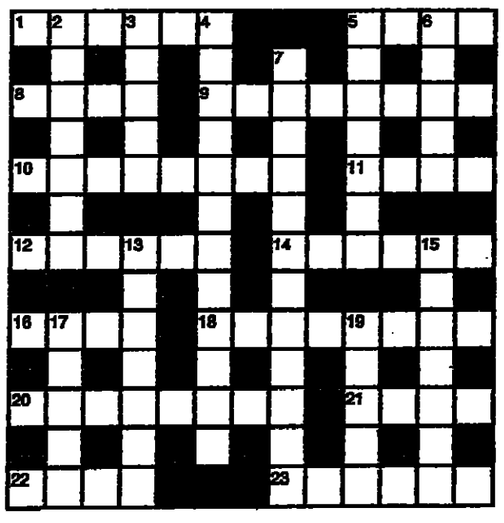


INTRODUCE SOME CALIFORNIAN INTO THE CONVERSATION.

E&J

SINGLE CASK MATURED BRANDY

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TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

No 73

ACROSS

1 Electrician; kindles (6)
5 Concealment for face (4)
8 Blood-sucking insect (4)
9 Under obligation (8)
10 Instrument with slide (8)
11 London modern-art gallery (4)
12 Bear-like burrowing marsupial (6)
14 Size of paper, after two folds (6)
16 Wood piled for cremation (4)
18 Life-saver once for pairs of animals (5,3)
20 Old joke (8)
21 Hideout of wild animals, robbers (4)
22 Burden; to pile on (4)
23 Boat's steering device (6)

DOWN

2 Capital of Sicily (7)
3 Royal dominion (5)
4 India, geographically (12)
5 Citizen army (7)
6 Item of confectionery (5)
7 Rugby position (5-7)
13 Fortunate (7)
15 Mound-building tropical ant (7)
17 Brutish person (*Gulliver*) (5)
19 Substantial, firm (5)

SOLUTION TO NO 72

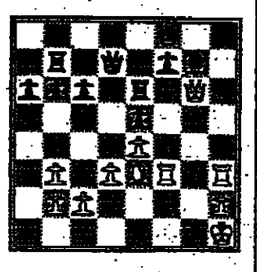
ACROSS: 1 Spitting 7 Image 8 Catamaran 9 Dee 10 Imam 11 Vicuna 13 Pusher 14 Fiddle 17 Shadow 18 Derv 20 Fee 22 Up the wall 23 Chaos 24 Betrayed

DOWN: 1 Sochi 2 In tears 3 Tome 4 Nordic 5 Panda 6 Defence 7 Insulin 12 Pegasus 13 Perfect 15 Dietary 16 Loathe 17 Sedan 19 Valid 21 Meir

CHESS

By Raymond Keene

This position is a variation from the game Nunn – Barua, Hastings Premier 1993. With an extra pawn and a good attack, White will win this position anyway, but it is always advisable to kill off any resistance if possible. White to play.



Solution, page 40

WORDS

By Philip Howard

DAEDAL
a. To fritter away time
b. A cowshed
c. A maze

EUNUCHRY
a. Nut-crackers
b. Being emasculated
c. A sugary tisane

THEANDRIC
a. Inquisitive
b. A rhubarb purgative
c. Human and divine

TRILAPSE
a. An Olympic sport
b. An apse with triglyphs
c. Sinning for the third time

Answers on page 40